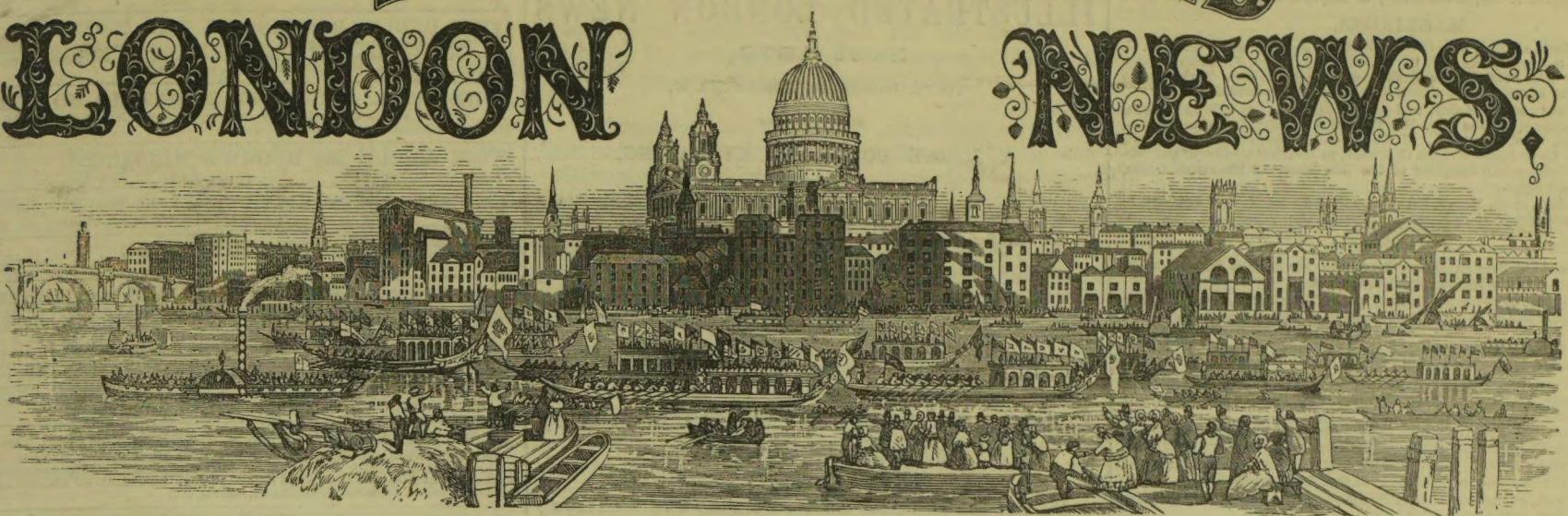


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

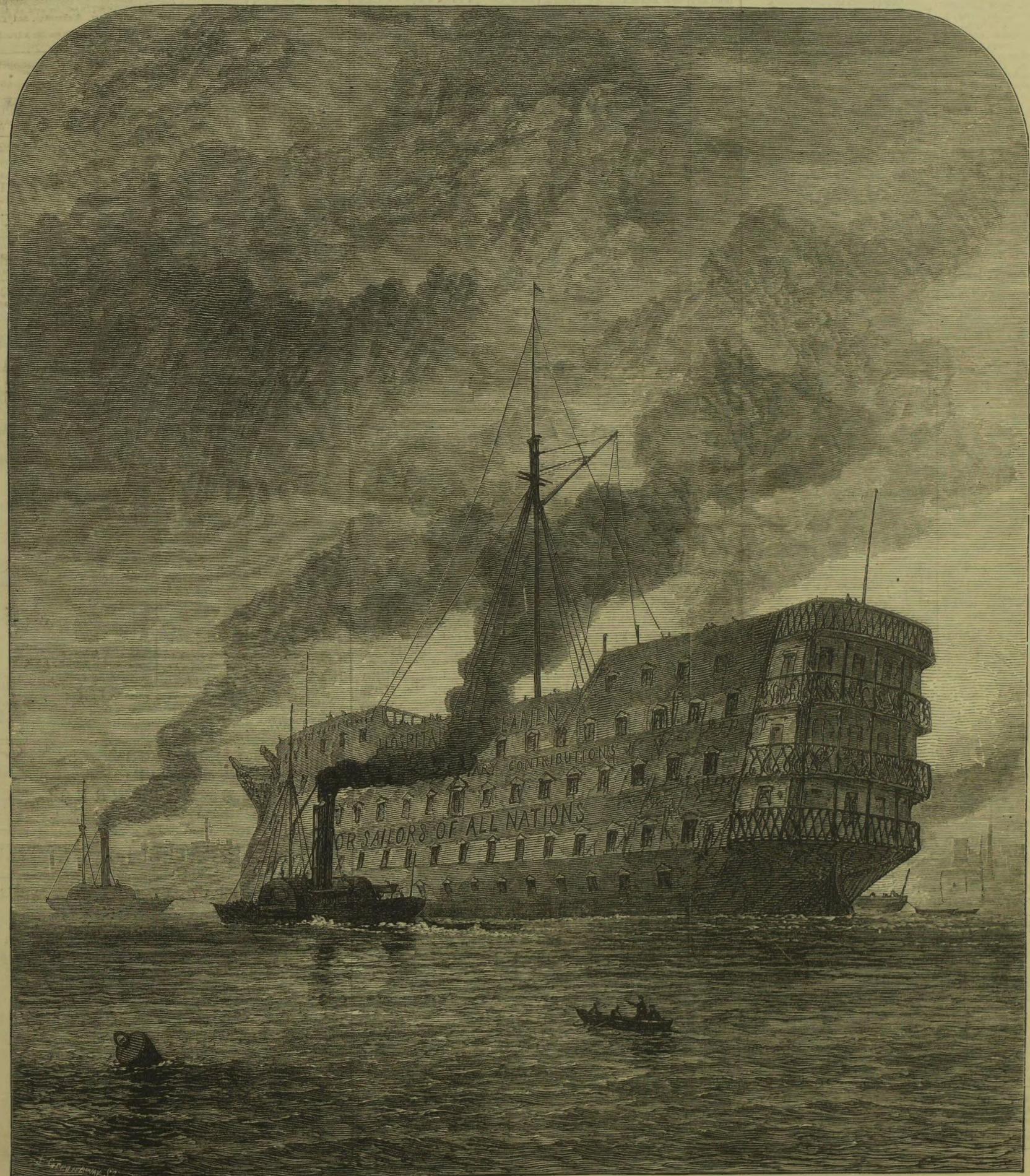


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DEPARTURE OF THE DREADNOUGHT HOSPITAL SHIP FROM HER OLD MOORINGS IN THE THAMES.

cerned its weakness. It is, or rather it was, on taking the division on the question of urgency, a very formidable minority, but a minority still, and one which M. Thiers had it in his power to render harmless, by accepting the voice of a majority in the Assembly as the voice of the nation. That course, it must be remembered, is still in his power, and therefore, however resolute his enemies may be, he really has them in a *cul de sac*. It may be, however, that his temper will prevent his availingly himself of this resource, after the declarations which he has already made that he must and will have a unanimous vote of confidence. Looked at from an English point of view the situation is very singular. If a Cabinet Minister here had officially affirmed that he must have a vast preponderance of votes, and had failed to obtain them, his course as a high-minded man would be obvious. The State must be in very great peril to justify, in England, the course which we should not be indisposed to defend were M. Thiers to take it. An English Minister knows that "there are within the realm, as good as he," if not five hundred, at least more than enough to supply a man for the gap. Constitutionally, he would be bound by precedent. There is no Constitution to bind M. Thiers, and there is not a man in France so necessary as himself to her salvation. We do not consider that the aid of political casuistry need be called in to provide a solution for the problem. M. Thiers placed himself in the wrong by his imperiousness, and he owes it to France that he should place himself in the right by taking counsel of moderation.

We are assuming for the purpose of argument that on the next division M. Thiers will have a distinctly respectable majority, and probably an increase upon that which decided, in conformity with his wish, that the great debates should stand over until the Thursday. There may be adjournment, but most probably our readers will be aware of the result by the time our issue is in their hands. Granted this majority, it need not be held to be an entire triumph for M. Thiers. It does not necessarily imply that France is opposed to a system of Ministerial responsibility, or that she is bent upon his retaining in the Assembly a position which enables him to prevent free debate. But it certainly does mean—especially if we consider its components for a moment, and their own marked differences—that France will have M. Thiers in office, because his name means Order. M. Thiers knows this perfectly well, and we cannot see how a man of honour who has already assumed so much power as to leave any other government wellnigh impossible can, on a principle of false pride, throw into confusion the affairs of those who have so trusted him.

But, on the other hand, what is to be said of Royalist patriotism. We were ready to allow that the Right had a distinct grievance in being asked to assent to an anti-Monarchic profession of faith. The Imperialist, the Orleanist, the Legitimist, may fairly refuse to say that France wills a Republic. But each might well be content with having made his protest, seeing that anything practical is utterly out of his power. Each player is asked for a King, and has no King to lay upon the table. Is it proposed to bring back the exile from Chiselhurst? He is far too sagacious to move as yet, with the echoes of Sedan scarcely silenced. Which of the eminently cautious Princes of the House of Orleans as yet cares to make a single move? And the White Flag may wave gallantly, but it dares not advance. Whether time will "bring its revenges" to any one of these types has to be seen; but indisputably there is no sign of such a thing now. But what is there between letting all claims lie dormant and another savage revolution? There is M. Thiers; and yet a passionate minority, not representing France at all, would drive him from his place. France has not had much to thank her kings for; but her "kings' men" have often been her worst enemies, and the tradition seems to have descended.

On the whole, there is less and there is more in the situation than seems generally understood. Less, because it is not now a case of the reconstruction of a system, so much as a case whether one man shall be allowed to assert himself unduly. More, because hostilities have reached the point where order and public safety are menaced. We do not care to picture the grimmest possibility; but should another Revolution occur, to whom is France to look for the putting down of the democracy. Will the army be true to the cause of order, and, if so, who will be true to the army? It is melancholy that these should be the first questions, that the idea of political changes and of violence are inseparable when France is the scene. One thought in this direction should be enough to still the angry passions, to calm the haughty temper, and to force all parties to a compromise which shall prevent a new cataclysm. That it should do so, we know: that it will do so, we hope.

Late correspondence from Calcutta brings very prominently before the notice of the British public the continuous advances made by the empire of Russia in Central Asia. Not many weeks since it was told us in tones of surprise, not unmixed with dismay, that Russia was marching, or preparing to march, into the Khanate of Khiva, and was likely enough to annex that capital and the whole surrounding district to the Russian empire in the East. Since then detailed information has reached us, through the medium of the St. Petersburg press, respecting the offence given by the Khan of Khiva, and by his Prime Minister, to the Russian authorities in that

vicinity. The facts embodied in this interesting information, originally communicated from Astrachan, and transferred to the columns of the *Times* on Tuesday last, are well worth review, although it is impossible so to summarise them as to make them thoroughly intelligible without engrossing a larger space than we can afford consistently with other claims upon the columns of our Journal. We prefer to make an observation or two upon the political aspect of those facts as it regards our Indian empire.

To most observing and candid minds there may have been suggested by a double current of events during the present century the idea that England and Russia have pursued their respective courses, in extending the boundaries of their empire, very mainly with a view to the same objects, actuated by the same motives, justified or condemned by the same consideration. The difference has been that England has obtained her outlet to vast outlying regions of territory by way of the sea, and that Russia has done so overland. There has, probably, been in neither case an overt definite design, up to which the activities of either nation have systematically worked. Russia, in Central Asia, occupies, at the present time, much the same relation to the populations with which she comes in contact, as England did in India only a generation or two back. It seems utterly impossible to maintain close contiguity between Western civilisation, however imperfect, and Eastern semi-civilisation or barbarism, except by a process which inevitably breaks down the political power of the latter, and after a while merges it into the former. There has been great talk of the will of Peter the Great having fired and directed the ambition of Russia. The whole range of facts which is usually pointed to in proof of the influence exerted by the will of the Czar upon the character of the Russian nation far more certainly illustrates the irresistible tendency of events under certain conditions of human rivalry. As in India, so in Central Asia, the advance of the newer form of civilisation upon the older and less vigorous much more resembles the result of a general law which impresses its force even upon the unwilling than any episodical incident such as the assumed will of Peter the Great or any special ambition on the part of a particular race.

The practical question suggested by the advance of the Russians in Central Asia is, what should be the attitude taken up by this country, or rather by England-in-India, with regard to it? Should it be that of friendly acquiescence, or of opposition? Is it our interest, or would it be for the interest of humanity, that we should strive to interpose between our possessions in India and the Eastern coast of the Caspian Sea, as broad a belt as possible of restless, savage, unorganised barbarism, inflamed with a common hatred of Russia? Or should we view with equanimity the gradual assimilation by Russia of these Eastern hordes, and come to a close understanding as to the recognition by each Empire of the territory and the frontiers of the other. Opinion, we think, gradually inclines to the more peaceful and amicable solution of the problem. Even opinion in India, which has usually been extremely sensitive with regard to every approach made by Russia to the North-Western frontier, is becoming tolerably calm in view of the actual facts connected with that approach, and exhibits itself in considerable hesitation and doubt as to whether the Government of India should deeply concern itself concerning what may take place in Central Asia on the other side of the well-defined and well-guarded frontier of our magnificent Eastern dependency.

The truth is that the supposed dream of Russian ambition, whatever it may have been half a century ago, has been dissipated—if, indeed, it ever existed in other than Anglo-Indian minds—by "the march of events." Russia can do much better for herself, for the increase of her trade, for the development of her enterprise, for the gradual organisation of her resources, both political and commercial, and for the employment and extension of her influence, by restricting her advances in Central Asia within such a definite area as she may be able to fix upon, than by throwing away her great strength upon a distant expedition for the military conquest of India. It would be more easy for her, perhaps, to conquer India in England, than England in India. She was nearly drained of her life in the Crimea. She would be utterly exhausted, and for no tangible purpose, by two or three campaigns on the borders of such of our Indian territory as she could reach. No doubt she has ambition, as England has. But her ambition will, in the long run, travel in the line of her interests. To use a cant phrase of the day, each empire has "its mission" in the East, and each should be permitted to do its work without needless interference by the other. The chances of collision between Russia and England on Indian territory, or even on that of Central Asia most contiguous to it, will be very small, at least for half a century to come, if a policy of sagacious tolerance be followed out by our Indian Government. Such a policy is decidedly approved of by the present Viceroy. It needs, however, to bear upon it the stamp of even a higher authority. In some shape or other of diplomatic agreement might it not be possible for Russia and England to pledge themselves one to the other to pursue their several purposes in the East without permitting the growth of mutual suspicion, and with a loyal care on the part of both to avoid with the utmost determination all tendencies to and chances of collision?

THE COURT.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, left Balmoral Castle yesterday (Friday) week, en route for Windsor Castle. The suite in attendance consisted of the Marchioness of Ely, the Hon. Harriet Phipps, Colonel H. F. Ponsonby, and Lord Charles Fitzroy. The Hon. Frances Drummond also travelled with her Majesty to Perth. The Queen posted to Ballater, where a guard of honour of the 91st Regiment, under the command of Captain Alison, was in attendance. Her Majesty travelled in a state saloon by a special train provided by the London and North-Western Railway Company, leaving Ballater at five minutes past two p.m. At Aberdeen the Queen was received by Lord Provost Leslie, Sir Thomas Gladstone, of Fasque, and other gentlemen; there was also a large attendance of ladies. The Royal travellers dined in the station committee-rooms at Perth. The journey south was resumed at seven minutes past seven o'clock, and the Court arrived at Windsor Castle at nine o'clock on Saturday morning last. Later in the day the Queen, with Princess Beatrice, walked and drove out. Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein visited her Majesty.

On Sunday Prince Leopold attended Divine service in the private chapel of the castle. The Rev. Dr. Monsell, Rector of St. Nicholas Guildford, and Rural Dean, officiated. Prince and Princess Christian and Prince Christian Victor partook of luncheon with the Queen.

On Monday her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, drove to Cumberland Lodge, and visited the children of Prince and Princess Christian. The Dean of Westminster and Lady Augusta Stanley arrived at the castle.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Council, at which were present the Marquis of Ripon, Viscount Halifax, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Earl Granville, and the Duke of Argyll. Sir James Hannen, Knight, Judge of the Probate and Divorce Court, and Mr. Commissioner of Charities Peter Erle were introduced and sworn in members of the Privy Council, and took their seats at the board accordingly. Sir Arthur Helps was Clerk of the Council. The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, and the Lord President had audiences of the Queen. The Marchioness of Ely left the castle.

Her Majesty, with Princess Beatrice, has taken her customary daily walking and driving exercises.

The Queen has sent a donation of £400 for the relief of the sufferers from the late inundations in Rome.

The Court will continue to reside at Windsor until after Dec. 14, and will then proceed to the Isle of Wight to pass the Christmas.

The Duchess Dowager of Athole has succeeded the Marchioness of Ely as Lady in Waiting, and the Hon. Emily Cathcart and the Hon. Mary Lascelles have succeeded the Hon. Harriet Phipps and the Hon. Frances Drummond as Maids of Honour in Waiting to the Queen.

Lord Wrottesley and Colonel the Hon. A. Liddell have succeeded Viscount Torrington and the Hon. Mortimer Sackville West as Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Hon. and Rev. Francis Edmund Cecil Byng, Vicar of St. Peter's, South Kensington, and Honorary Chaplain to her Majesty, to be one of the Chaplains in ordinary to her Majesty, in the room of the Very Rev. Benjamin Morgan Cowie, B.D., Dean of Manchester, and the Rev. James St. John Blunt, M.A., Vicar of Old Windsor, and Chaplain to her Majesty's Chapel, Windsor Great Park, to be an Honorary Chaplain to her Majesty.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales left Six-Mile Bottom, near Newmarket, on Saturday last, and travelled by special train to Cambridge, proceeding thence by the ordinary train to Downham Market. Thence his Royal Highness drove to Stratford Hall, the residence of Sir William Bagge, Bart., M.P. After passing the day shooting, the Prince drove to Watlington station and travelled thence by special train to Wolferton. His Royal Highness arrived at Sandringham shortly before seven o'clock. On Sunday the Prince and Princess attended Divine service at Sandringham church. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow and the Rev. W. Robins, Rector of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, officiated. On Monday the Prince inspected the cottages on the West Newton part of the Royal estate, and afterwards drove to Wolferton and met Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and Prince Arthur, and accompanied their Royal Highnesses to Sandringham House. The Prince and Princess have entertained a distinguished party during the week. The Prince has sent a large quantity of game for the use of the patients in the Norfolk and Norwich, Lynn, Cambridge, and Charing-cross Hospitals, and other charitable institutions. His Royal Highness will shortly visit Lord and Lady Suffield.

The Duke of Edinburgh, upon his arrival at Berlin yesterday (Friday) week, was received at the railway station by Prince Adalbert in the name of the Emperor of Germany. On the following day the Duke had a special audience of the Emperor. In the evening a grand dinner was given at the palace in honour of his Royal Highness. The Duke left Berlin on Monday for Coburg.

Prince Leopold, attended by Mr. Collins, left Windsor Castle on Tuesday for Wykeham House, Oxford, where his Royal Highness will reside during his University career. On Wednesday the Prince was admitted a member of Christ Church College by Dean Liddell, Vice-Chancellor. His Royal Highness wore a nobleman's undress academicals. The bells of Christ Church and the city church were rung.

The Duke of Cambridge returned to Gloucester House, Park-lane, last Saturday, from Six-Mile Bottom, Newmarket.

The Prince Imperial, since joining the Royal Military Academy, has resided at a private residence which has been taken for him at Nightingale-vale, Woolwich-common.

The Japanese Ambassadors visited Reading, on Monday, and inspected Messrs. Huntley and Palmer's biscuit manufactory. Their Excellencies were entertained at luncheon, at the Townhall, by the Mayor. About a hundred guests were present.

The Duke and Duchess of Athole have left Thomas's Hotel on a visit to Lord and Lady Rendlesham, at Rendlesham Hall, Woodbridge.

The Duke and Duchess of Richmond and Ladies Caroline and Florence Gordon Lennox have left the Alexandra Hotel.

The Duchess Dowager of Athole and Laura Lady Peyton have left the St. George's Hotel.

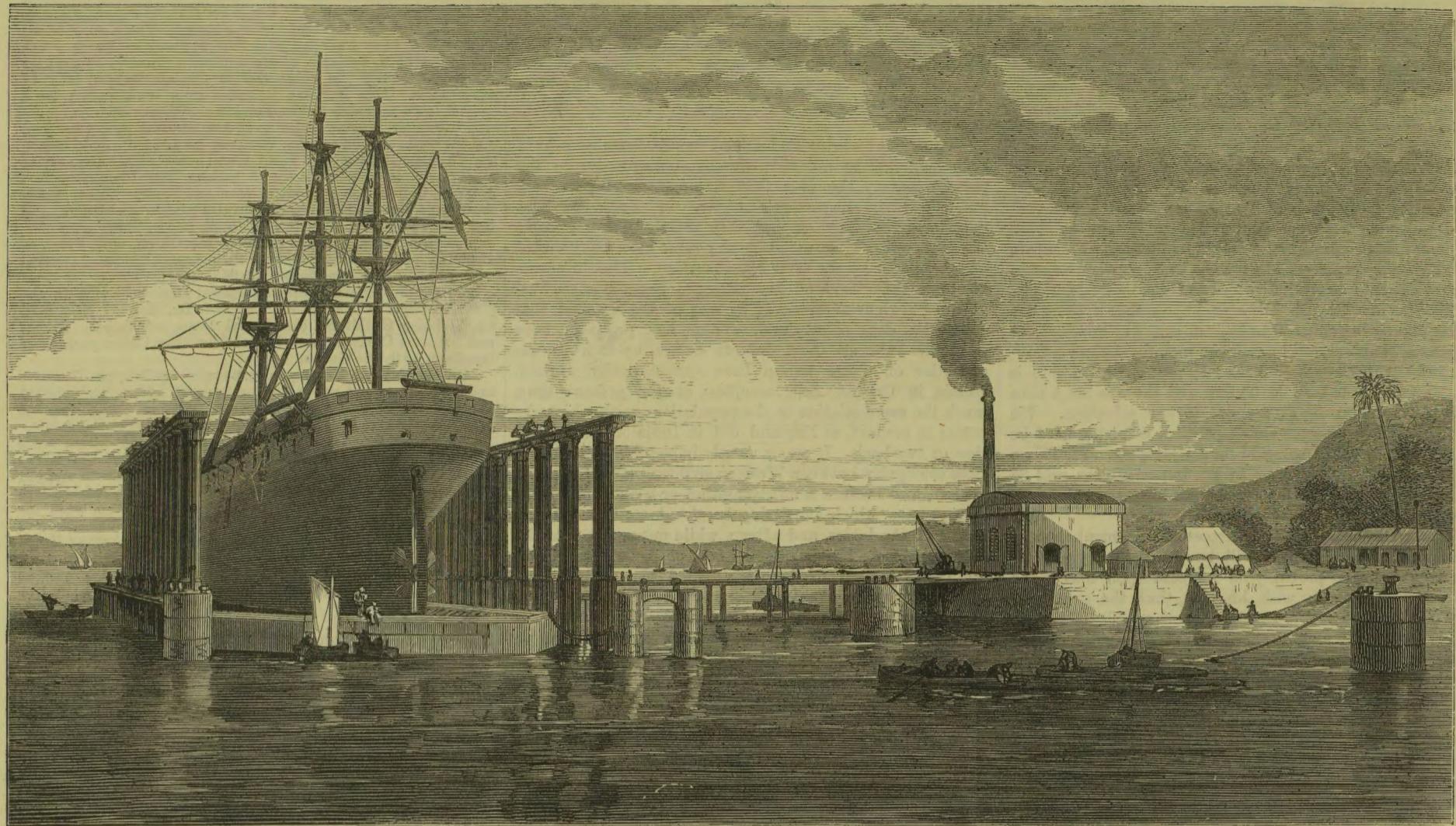
The Duchess Dowager of St. Albans and Lady Diana Beauclerk have arrived at Prince's-gate.

The Earl and Countess of Derby have arrived in town from Holwood, Kent.

The Earl and Countess of Mountcharles have arrived at their residence at Rutland-gate, from their seat in Kent.

Lord and Lady Buckhurst have arrived in Belgrave-square from Knole.

Field Marshal Sir William Gomm left town on Saturday last for Brighton.



THE HYDRAULIC LIFT GRAVING DOCK, BOMBAY HARBOUR.

HYDRAULIC-LIFT FLOATING DOCK.

The new floating dock on Hog Island, at the head of Bombay harbour, was opened on Sept. 16. It differs entirely from the Bermuda and other floating docks, which we have described. Their principle was that of a large caisson, or pontoon, with hollow sides of wrought iron ; to sink, when the closed hollow

spaces were filled with water, so as to let a ship come in over the bottom ; but to rise again, bearing up the ship, when the water was pumped out of those closed spaces, for the convenience of repairing the ship, as in a graving dock. The Bombay floating dock is on another principle. It stands in a depth of about 50 ft. to 60 ft., at low water, with a rise and fall of 15 ft. Two rows of cast-iron pillars, numbering thirty-six in all,

eighteen on each side, have been put up, sufficient in extent longitudinally, to take in a ship of 400 ft. in length, and sufficiently wide apart, transversely, to admit one of a corresponding breadth of beam. The pillars are connected at the top longitudinally, but not transversely, with girders, which tie them together and give them stability. Each pillar or column, some of which are 109 ft. long, towering up 36 ft. above



THE VOYAGE TO CHINA : SUNDAY ON THE RED SEA.



THE VOYAGE TO CHINA: CEYLON BOATS AT GALLE.

high-water mark, and reaching down into a hard trap rock, 73 ft. below, is there securely bolted and concreted with the best Portland cement. Between each two pillars, transversely, but under water, are cross girders, to each end of which a chain is attached, on both sides of the pillars, which are erected in two halves to allow of the cross-heads passing up and down. These chains are attached to movable rods within the columns, which are acted on by hydrostatic pressure, thereby raising the submerged cross-girders. Over these transverse submerged girders a large wrought-iron tray is floated, which fills the space between the two rows of pillars; and this tray is what receives and floats the ship. Our Illustration shows the huge tray floating in position, with blocks ready laid between the columns—the lifting girders, chains, and cross-heads being submerged to their fullest extent. Its shape is something like the Bermuda pontoon; but it is only 9 ft. 6 in. deep, with thirty-six water-tight compartments, which will hold sufficient water for the whole to sink itself, and sufficient air-space to buoy up a ship when the tray is floated on to the surface. The ship must be hauled into position between the two rows of pillars, the tray and the submerged cross-girders having been previously sunk. The hydrostatic rams are set in motion, which work the chains, raise the girders, and lift the tray to the surface with the ship bodily resting upon it. Then the ship is shored up by patent lift-blocks, and the pontoon is floated outside from between the pillars by means of powerful capstans. The repairs can now be carried on at pleasure. As many trays as are provided, so many large ships can be lifted and floated out one after the other; and herein it differs entirely from the Bermuda and most other great floating docks, which can only deal with one ship at a time, whilst an equally expensive shore staff has to be maintained. The trays can be made of any size to suit particular classes of ships, but they form a very small portion of the cost of the dock, varying from £10,000 to £18,000 apiece, according to their dimensions. There is a gangway the whole length of the lift, and at 36 ft. above high-water mark the top of each row of columns is connected by a pair of girders, 2 ft. 7 in. deep, which form gantries for four 25-ton travelling-jennies; the use of these is for lifting the presses and rams for repairs, and other purposes. At this place ample room exists for comfortably moving any number of pontoons. Three Dolphin columns, the largest of their kind, are planted in 54 ft. of water, and are surmounted by powerful capstans for hauling in and out of moorings the trays and ships. There are eighty-one columns in all; and these have been erected in eighteen months, without any loss of life or limb. The tray itself weighs 1610 tons.

The valve-house, on the pier head, is hidden from view in our Engraving by the inshore row of pillars. It is fitted with the most compact hydraulic machinery. There are three small wheel valves in this neat little box, some 12 ft. square, which command the greatest mechanical power ever applied—namely, a lifting power of over 25,000 tons; though about 10,000 tons is the heaviest lift that will ever be required of it. The wheel valves thoroughly control the lifting of the ship on the tray. She can either be pitched or rolled by applying the power at the ends or at the side, or she can be raised quite level, which is the ordinary fashion, till the keel is several feet above high water, which will enable every portion of her to be inspected and repaired immediately. A pier 250 ft. long connects the floating dock with the Bunder or quay, on which stands the engine-house, and behind this again the site for the intended workshops. Near this is a tent, where Mr. Maclaren, agent for the contractors, Messrs. Emmerson and Murgatroyd, of Liverpool and Stockport, gave a breakfast to a large party of guests on the opening day. Mr. Edwin Clark, member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, is the inventor and patentee of this floating dock. There is one of half the size in the Victoria Docks, London, and another at Malta. The resident superintending engineer at Bombay is Mr. John Standfield. It is a fine work, and calculated to be very useful, both for naval or military and commercial purposes. It will allow the largest ironclad to be hauled up, high and dry, in thirty-five minutes, whatever be the state of the tide; and this in a convenient position, six miles from the entrance to the harbour, surrounded by deep and smooth water, quite beyond the range and sight of an enemy's guns. For the service of merchant-vessels it is desirable that the new floating dock should be provided with several pontoons and an efficient staff, to take at low rates those ships that leave Bombay without docking on account of the great detention. This, indeed, might lead to a diversion of traffic up this new channel, where, by means of a easily-constructed line, Hog Island, which forms a portion of the mainland of the Concan, may be connected with Kurjeet and the Great Indian Peninsular Railway, saving upwards of twenty-five miles of carriage in the case of goods sent to and from the south-east of India.

We have to thank our correspondent, Lieutenant Francis Ingram Palmer, commanding H.M.S. Magdala, for the sketch and description of this floating dock at Bombay.

THE DREADNOUGHT HOSPITAL-SHIP.

The removal of this vessel, familiarly known to all Greenwich steam-boat passengers, from the moorings she has held so long, was beheld with much interest by hundreds of the river-side people on Monday week. This hospital-ship and her predecessors have occupied a position off Deptford, almost immediately opposite the centre of the Isle of Dogs, more than half a century. When the Seamen's Hospital Society was formed, in 1821, its managing committee obtained the loan of the Grampus, a 50-gun frigate, which did duty as a hospital-ship for about nine years. In 1830 she was exchanged for the Dreadnought. But lastly, in 1856, her Majesty's ship Caledonia was lent to the Society and rechristened the Dreadnought, since the ship of that name had acquired a wide notoriety as the largest floating hospital. The ship just removed had three hospital-decks (one of which contained sixty-three beds), and was capable of accommodating 200 patients, besides a large resident staff, medical and other officers. She and her predecessors have received upwards of 120,000 sick seamen of all nations; and the hospital possessed advantages for the study of some special diseases, such as could not be found in any of our metropolitan institutions. But on sanitary and administrative grounds it was considered unadvisable to perpetuate the existence of a permanent floating hospital; and the Society, having obtained the loan of a part of Greenwich Hospital from the Admiralty, removed its patients in the spring of 1870. Since that time the old ship has done good service as a smallpox hospital, under the supervision of the Metropolitan Asylum Board, who were thus able to clear their establishments at Stockwell, Hoxton, and Hampstead while the epidemic was at its height, and to isolate their patients on board the ship during convalescence. The Board resigned her into the hands of the Admiralty some weeks ago, and as she is far too large and unwieldy a vessel to be useful as a receiving-ship for the port sanitary authorities, it was decided to remove her to Chatham. She has for many years obstructed the navigation very considerably. The old ship moved off slowly and steadily before

high water, towed by the Admiralty tug Scotia, and closely nursed by two others. The river was somewhat crowded at the time, and she was for a minute or two in difficulties off Greenwich Hospital, but got clear of the surrounding small craft and glided round the point. On arriving at Chatham, she was placed in the repairing basin; but that basin must be emptied to recover one of the two great guns sunk there, and the Dreadnought is to be shifted into the factory basin.

THE VOYAGE TO CHINA.

Our Special Artist, who has been sent to China for the express purpose of furnishing this Journal with sketches of the incidents and views of places to be met with on the route, and of the looks, the manners, and customs of the Chinese people, gives us another scene on board the Peninsular and Oriental steamer in tropical latitudes, either in the Red Sea or the Indian Ocean. It is the congregation of the cabin passengers and officers of the ship for Divine worship in the saloon on a Sunday morning. The prayers of the Church of England are read by the captain of the ship, unless a clergyman or missionary happen to be present. He sits at the head of the table in an arm-chair, with a desk or cushion before him, over which the Union Jack is spread, to support the book. The passengers are seated along both sides of the table. As the crew is wholly composed of Lascars, there are no sailors at this English religious service. The heat in August, when our Artist made his passage from Suez to Galle, was so great as to require the constant use of the punkahs, or fanners, made of cloth stretched on a hanging frame and kept moist, which the servants keep in motion by pulling ropes.

An object which is one of the first to strike the traveller's attention on arriving at the port of Galle is shown in the larger Engraving. This is the peculiar kind of boat, called a sipayi, used by the seaside people of Ceylon. No iron nails are used in the building of the native vessels, which long since gave rise to a fable of the ancient geographers, concerning the existence, in those seas, of a powerful magnetic rock able to draw ships out of their course by its attractive force upon any of that metal in their structure. What may be called the keel of these boats is a log of cocoanut tree; but in this case the keel forms the whole bottom of the boat. It has two perpendicular sides, leaving a very narrow space between, barely sufficient to let a person's leg in, and reminding one very much of a horse-trough. Such a boat would at once capsize; but, to prevent this, an outrigger is constructed. It is made of cocoanut wood, and is attached by two bent branches of a tree; it is so placed as to float on the surface of the water and parallel to the boat. It has a double action: as a float, it prevents the boat from capsizing on the side where it is placed; and, as a weight, it prevents the boat from going over to the other side. From the narrowness of these craft, they go very fast through the water. Their reputation for speed is very great, particularly under sail; and when the wind is high, and the outrigger is to windward, one of the boatmen will go out to the end of it, so as to increase the weight, and prevent all chance of the boat going over. On the shores of Ceylon there is scarcely any other kind of boat to be seen. The native boatmen take the passengers ashore in boats of this kind having a seat, which, as it projects outward, may be also described as an "outrigger." The Lascars use the word "kitabkekiishi" for such a boat, because the boards forming the perpendicular sides are exactly like the boards which inclose the strips of palm-leaves of many Indian books; but sipayi is the Singhalese name. With their great speed they have often been known to take letters after ships that had left port, and to overtake the ship when so far off as to be hull down.

There are 700 Japanese students in various schools and colleges in the United States.

A service of gold plate, of the value of £3000, with an address, has been presented by the members of the Bramham Moor Hunt to Mr. George Lane Fox, who has been master of the hunt twenty-four years.

The *Levant Herald* states that the Sultan has conferred the Medjidie of the fourth class upon Captain Edward William Stocker, commander of the steam-ship *Ninivo*, of the Company Oman, of Bagdad, for the able services he rendered in the transport and landing of troops during the Nedjid expedition.

The opening of the Italian Opera at Cairo took place on the 2nd inst. The theatre is spacious, well-ventilated, and splendidly decorated. On the right side, three or four boxes are veiled with embroidered gauze, being appropriated to the ladies of the harem.

An interesting course of experiments in gunnery was carried out, on Wednesday, at Picklecombe Battery, one of the coast defences of Plymouth Sound. The guns, forty-two in number, were fired independently and in salvoes to test the arrangements and fittings. The results were most satisfactory.

Her Majesty has approved the grant to Mr. William Gibbs Rogers, the well-known carver, of a pension of £50 per annum on the Civil List, in recognition of the influence he has had on art-decoration, especially with regard to the revival of the art of wood-carving in this country early in the present century. He is now in his eighty-first year.

The six designs for the prize medals of different classes to be given to successful competitors at the Vienna Exhibition of next year were not all designed by Herr Tautenhayn, as we supposed in our notice which accompanied the Illustrations. The fourth medal, "For Merit," and the sixth, "For Co-operation or Joint Workmanship," are by Herr C. Schwenger; the fifth, "For Good Taste," is by Messrs. Jos. Cesar and Rud. Weiss.

The pretty Japanese art of making threads of twisted tissue-paper and working them into lace, fringe, or matting, for the material of different articles of clothing or furniture, has lately been introduced into this country. It is explained in a little treatise, by a lady who calls herself "Japonica," published at the sale-room, in St. Benet-place, Gracechurch-street, where specimens of the manufacture and cut slips of coloured paper for twisting can be procured. Ladies who want a new kind of fancy work to do for a charity bazaar will be glad to learn this elegant device, which may be turned to account for many useful purposes.

Sir Bernard Burke's new work, "The Rise of Great Families, and other Essays and Stories," is full of diversified interest. In addition to the leading feature, there are other portions still more attractive to the general reader. One chapter narrates very amusingly the perils and perplexities of precedence, another the rival pretensions and quarrels of families, and a third recalls memories of the famous Viceregal Court of Ireland. We have, besides, the "Story of Pamela," the "Aberdeen Romance" (the marvellous career of the late Earl of Aberdeen), the Families of Illustrious Men, and a curious description of Ladies of the Order of the Garter. Family stories follow, and anecdotal fragments of personal history wind up a remarkable and most amusing volume.

The Extra Supplement.

"THE SHIPWRECK."

In the fine picture by J. M. W. Turner, an Engraving of which has been prepared for our Extra Supplement, the genius of that great painter is fully exerted; and his power of representing the sea and sky, in their most tempestuous as well as in their tranquil moods, with unequalled force and truth, may be fairly appreciated from this example. The dismantled and foundering hulk of a wrecked vessel is dimly seen at no great distance, amidst the lowering darkness and the haze of rain and spray; while three or four luggers, manned by the fearless and expert boatmen of our coast, with sails and oars employed to the best advantage in this stern conflict against the fury of the elements, are making their way, slowly but stubbornly, to the side of the doomed ship, with a view to save the lives of her crew, and also to earn the due salvage reward for so much of her cargo as they may bring ashore. Two boats, with some of the sailors and passengers, have meantime left the wreck, and the pieces of timber floating past seem to tell of the destruction that has just overtaken another part, involving some loss of human life; for the object at which the men in the boat are so eagerly catching, in the wave that dashes against her gunwale, can be nothing of a less precious nature, or they would rather consult their own safety by letting it go.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Nov. 28.

The hopes that had been entertained of an amicable arrangement between the President of the Republic and the various Conservative fractions of the Assembly vanished on Tuesday, when M. Batbie presented the report of the majority of the De Kerdrel Commission. Far from pacifying and uniting, this report, which emanates exclusively from the Monarchical party, only tends to widen the breach already existing between the two great parties of the Chamber, and flings down the gauntlet as if with the object of provoking that saddest of calamities—civil war. While I write these words the strife is at its height in the theatre of Versailles. As both sides are almost equal in strength, the issue of the struggle is extremely doubtful; but it is evident that the genuine public opinion of France will only be satisfied by the conclusions of M. Batbie's report being rejected by a decided majority, and any contrary vote will only hasten the moment when the present legislative body must disappear, to give place to a new one representing the real sentiments of the country, and not, as is now the case, those of the pretenders and office-seekers, who are resolutely struggling to gain the upper hand.

It was on Tuesday afternoon at about four o'clock that M. Batbie mounted the tribune of the Assembly amidst profound silence. After mentioning that the committee had examined M. de Kerdrel's important proposition, and the Message that had occasioned it, in a most impartial and conciliatory spirit, he commenced by paying a tribute to the eminent services of the President of the Republic. He repudiated any idea of the country desiring the dissolution of the Assembly, which remained at its post from a sense of duty, and would not retire until France was not merely delivered from its foreign enemies but was also reassured respecting those of the interior. Several passages, said he, of M. Thiers's Message had alarmed a part of the Assembly, which asked itself if the pact of Bordeaux no longer existed, and was astonished to find a Government instituted by the Assembly unanimously placing itself at the service of a fraction which had never had a majority in the Chamber. Another paragraph of the Message acknowledged, however, the sovereign power of the Assembly to choose and constitute the definitive form of government, which, said M. Batbie, in the opinion of a great many Conservatives, could only be monarchical. The speaker then called attention to the applause with which the Message had been greeted by the Extreme Left, and which was well calculated to fill the Conservatives with alarm. He violently apostrophised the Republican party, making them responsible for all the misfortunes of France, and telling them that all they desired was to ruin definitively their country. He could not understand M. Thiers serving this faction, which he had in former times so vehemently denounced. Everywhere, he remarked, do we see the Radicals covering themselves with the respected name of the President of the Republic. At the Grenoble banquet the names of M. Thiers and M. Gambetta were coupled in one toast, the latter taking the former under his protection to dissipate the distrust of those present. M. Thiers, however, has energetically repudiated any connection with the Radical party, and the committee had accordingly proposed to him to found a *gouvernement de combat*, which would enlighten France as to the designs of the enemy. To perform this, however, M. Thiers demanded arms. In his eyes a second Chamber is indispensable. This is not the opinion of the majority of the committee, in whose eyes the nomination of a second Chamber could only follow the dissolution of the present Assembly. The committee, moreover, disapproved of M. Thiers continually speaking in debates, of intervening to protect the members of his Cabinet, and of converting purely Ministerial questions into Constitutional ones; to remedy which state of things the committee submitted to the National Assembly a resolution establishing Ministerial responsibility.

This was the only reform proposed by the committee—the all-important questions of a second Chamber, of the prolongation of M. Thiers's powers, and of the nomination of a vice-president being dismissed with scarcely a word of comment. The President of the Republic had declared, it would seem, to the committee that he would not accept the establishment of Ministerial responsibility without the adoption of the other measures, which he judged indispensable for the consolidation of the Government of the Republic. It is for this reason that the minority of the committee disapproved the conclusions of the majority and the report of M. Batbie; and it has the intention of submitting to the Chamber a counter-project dealing with the various Constitutional questions in accordance with the views of M. Thiers.

M. Batbie was frequently applauded by the Right and Left Centre while reading his report, which the Left received with complete silence. The only incident of note which occurred was, while M. Batbie was apostrophising the Radical party, when M. Scheler, one of the deputies for Paris, rose from his place and furiously gesticulated at the speaker. M. Rouher, who, curiously enough, was surrounded throughout the sitting by a veritable little court, warmly felicitated the orator as he resumed his place, after having asked the Chamber to fix for the morrow the discussion of the committee's proposition to appoint a commission of fifteen members to prepare a law upon Ministerial responsibility. This was opposed by M. Martel, who requested that the discussion should be postponed until Thursday, which, after a few observations from the Duc

é'Audifret, was eventually agreed to by the Assembly by 356 ayes to 332 nays.

In the midst of the general anxiety respecting Constitutional questions, the Chamber has nevertheless found time to devote a couple of sittings this week to the discussion of bills respecting the restitution to the Orleans family of the property which Napoleon III, confiscated while President of the Republic. The debates, in which MM. Robert de Massy Bocher and Pacal Duprat took part, were not without interest. The Assembly eventually settled the question by voting the restitution of such property as the State had retained in its hands, and the refunding, with interest at 5 per cent, of such sums as were realised by the ex-Emperor by selling the wood upon the different estates.

The Assembly has passed the Jury Bill by 461 votes against 178.

Every day addresses from the provincial municipal councils, chambers of commerce, arts, and manufactures, Republican associations, &c., continue to flow in at M. Thiers's Versailles residence. They all call upon the President to uphold the Government of the Republic, and beg him not to abandon the helm of the State. Among the large towns which have forwarded addresses of this character are Marseilles, Dijon, Toulouse, Valence, Orange, Macon, Montmédy, Commeray, and Nîmes. It is stated by the *Rappel* that no less than 3500 similar addresses, emanating from towns and villages alike, have as yet been received by M. Thiers. M. Prax-Paris, an Orleanist-Bonapartist deputy, has given notice of his intention of interpellating the Government upon this question, which is well calculated to excite the susceptibilities of the Monarchical party. The debate upon the subject will take place immediately after the discussion on M. Babbie's report.

Before this report was made public, and while the committee were meeting daily at Versailles, the greatest excitement and anxiety prevailed in political circles. M. Thiers appeared twice before the committee to give explanations concerning certain passages of his Message; and the members of all fractions of the Assembly held repeated meetings and adopted numerous resolutions, but few of which will, however, be adhered to in the present state of affairs. At an important meeting of the Left Centre, a complete programme of Constitutional reforms in accordance with M. Thiers's views, was drawn up and adopted.

Paris has been menaced this week with an overflow of the river Seine, which has risen no less than five yards above its usual height. Several of the cellars of the houses bordering the river at Bercy; the café of the Vert Galant, on the little island of the same name near the Pont Neuf; and several parts of the quays have been flooded by the continually-rising stream. The islands in the neighbourhood of Asnières are completely submerged. At Havre, Rouen, and Honfleur the river has likewise risen considerably above its average level; and the Orne, the Yonne, and the Loire also menace an overflow of their banks.

Mr. Casper, the Englishman accused of supplying worthless boots to the French army during the war, has been acquitted by the Court at Lille, and exempted from costs.

SPAIN.

King Amadeus is reported to be daily gaining strength. Red Republican outbreaks are reported from Catalonia and Andalusia, but Senor Zorrilla has assured the Cortes that the Government is equal to the emergency, and that order will be restored. Martial law has been proclaimed in several districts.

ITALY.

The Chamber of Deputies, on Tuesday, elected Signor Piroli, Ministerial candidate, Vice-President. On Wednesday a debate took place on the Foreign Budget. Signor Visconti Venosta spoke at length upon the excellent relations of Italy with all the world. He said that it was the duty of Italy to expose the artifices of the reaction which, under the pretence of religion, was intent upon the destruction of the unity of Italy. Italy would always be faithful to liberty, and follow a policy of peace. Both were essential to her cause. She was anxious for peace at home and abroad, in order to fulfil the civilising mission inaugurated under the dynasty that all loved. These remarks were received with cheers.

GERMANY.

The improvement in the health of the Imperial Prince of Germany continues. The projected journey to Switzerland has, however, been abandoned.

The Duke of Edinburgh has been at Berlin, and had a special audience of the Emperor on Saturday.

The Counties Administration Bill was read the second time in the Lower House of the Prussian Parliament, on Saturday last, by a large majority, all the amendments proposed being rejected; and on Tuesday the bill was read the third time and passed by 288 votes against 91. The Prussian correspondent of the *Times* anticipates that forty landed proprietors and eminent members of the civil service will be created peers. But a telegram received on Thursday states that the Junker peers have intimated their willingness to accept the Counties Reform Bill, after amendments, on condition that their other privileges shall not be touched, and that new peers are not to be created unless they become indispensable.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Lower House a motion was brought forward the purport of which was that a professor appointed by the State to give religious instruction in a Government college should be dismissed because, having refused to accept the doctrine of Papal infallibility, he had been excommunicated by the Bishop of Ermeland. The Minister of Public Worship said, however, that the Government did not accept the doctrine either, and therefore could not recognise any consequences arising out of it, and the motion was rejected by 264 to 81 votes.

The Government has laid before the Diet a bill containing very stringent enactments for the regulation of the imposition of ecclesiastical punishments and discipline.

The Germano-Austrian Social Congress in Berlin is a State gathering. Ten meetings are to be held, and then reports are to be made to the two Governments, that a common action may be concerted.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

The Emperor proceeded from Buda to Vienna on Wednesday week, to be present at a Court dinner, to which the Duke of Edinburgh, Captain Haig, Sir Andrew Buchanan (the British Ambassador), Colonel Goodenough, Mr. Mounsey, Mr. Henley, and Mr. Bonham were invited.

We learn by telegraph from Vienna on Thursday that an Imperial decree has been issued convoking the Reichsrath on Dec. 12.

In consequence of Count Lonyay having himself informed the Hungarian Diet that he intends to cause a revision of all Government contracts since 1869, the hostility which existed against his Cabinet in the Chamber is appeased. The Diet has agreed to Deputy Koromic's motion for a revision of the standing orders of the House.

ROUMANIA.

The Chamber was opened on Wednesday by Prince Charles. In his speech from the throne his Highness dwelt upon the favourable financial situation of the country, which had been

chiefly brought about by the revenue derived from the tobacco monopoly and from the stamp law. The speech promised reforms in all the branches of the administration, and, in conclusion, stated that the relations with foreign countries were satisfactory. The Prince was enthusiastically received.

TURKEY.

Kiamil Pasha is replaced in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by Rachid Pasha, formerly Governor-General of Syria.

AMERICA.

Legislative measures for the restoration of American commerce to the condition in which it was before the war will, it is stated, be recommended in the Message of the President of the United States. The renovation of the American navy is urged in a report of the secretary for that department.

A telegram from New York, sent on Thursday, states that Mr. Horace Greely is dangerously ill and fast sinking.

The British garrison which has for so many years been maintained on the island of San Juan was withdrawn on Friday last, and the Stars and Stripes now wave in undisputed possession of the territory.

The Claims Commission at Washington has rejected demands put in by British subjects to the amount of ten millions of dollars.

The notorious Mr. Gould has been arrested at the suit of the directors of the Erie Railway, and admitted to bail. It was stated at the preliminary examination before the magistrates that the books show that ten million dollars are unaccounted for during Mr. Gould's management.

CANADA.

Lord Dufferin, the Governor-General, was enthusiastically received on Thursday week at Montreal, whither he had gone to attend at the presentation of a statue of the Queen to the city; and in his speech he testified his personal knowledge of her Majesty's deep interest in the welfare and happiness of her subjects throughout the Empire.

Extensive arrangements are being made by the Government of Ontario for promoting emigration to that province. Commissioners have been appointed for Great Britain and Ireland, Germany, and Alsace, and they have been instructed to attract principally rural immigrants.

INDIA.

Lord Northbrook has been enthusiastically received at Bombay. The durbar held on Wednesday week was numerously attended by Mahratta and Kattywar chiefs. Sir Albert and Lady Sassoon gave a ball in honour of the Viceroy in the evening. Over 1200 persons were present. The grounds around the mansion were beautifully illuminated. The Viceroy, accompanied by the Governor of Bombay, left yesterday week for Poona. On Tuesday he went to visit the Caves of Ellora.

A telegram has been received from the Maharajah of Kuppoottala stating that her Highness the Maharanee was safely delivered of a son and heir to the Musnud on Monday. Her Highness and the young Prince are doing well.

The Indian papers received by the present mail, which brings news from Bombay to Nov. 4, contain long accounts of the Viceroy's tour in Upper India. At the durbar held by his Excellency at Mooltan, Lord Northbrook, addressing the independent chiefs, said:—"I am glad to meet so many of you here to-day, for I look upon your presence as a proof of your confidence in the British Government. As the representative of the Queen in India, it is my duty to preserve peace within her Majesty's dominions; but so long as the security of our frontier is undisturbed, the British Government has no desire to interfere with your independence. Our only wish is to see you prosperous and happy—cultivating the arts of peace, and living in friendship one with another." The Nawab of Bhawulpore received a dress of honour on this occasion.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

From Hong-Kong the overland mail brings news to Oct. 17. Dengue fever had appeared at Amoy, and thousands of natives had been attacked. The termination of the war against the Miaoze in Kwei-Chow is officially announced in the *Peking Gazette*. The (native made) engines of the Chinese frigate recently launched from the Kaou-Chang-Meau arsenal had been tried, and were found to work very satisfactorily. Placards in Chinese had been found posted at Macao offering a thousand catties of gold for the head of Governor San Januario. The Viceroy of Canton was taking active measures to check coolie kidnapping. A private named Graham, in her Majesty's 1st-10th Regiment, was shot by a comrade named Jones, on the morning of the 12th ult. He died about nine hours afterwards. Jones has been committed for trial.

From Japan we hear that the Mikado opened the Yokohama and Jeddoh Railway on Nov. 13. The people showed much enthusiasm. The cable was being laid across Simonosaki Strait, thus completing connection from Yokohama to Europe. About nine-tenths of the bullion sunk in the wreck of the P. M. S. S. America had been recovered, in a fused state. The Japanese had withdrawn their agents in Corea, her relations with that country daily becoming more distant. A dreadful famine existed, it was said, in Corea.

AUSTRALIA.

A bill sanctioning marriage with a deceased wife's sister has been passed by the Parliament of Victoria.

The captain and mate of the ship Carl, recently engaged in kidnapping South Sea Islanders, have been sentenced to death at Sydney for murder.

The Paris journals announce the death of M. Plon (Henri Désiré), the celebrated publisher. M. Plon was sixty-seven.

A New York telegram announces that the steamer Carolina, bound from Baltimore to Queenstown, foundered on the 14th, but that no lives were lost.

The postage on letters addressed to Constantinople, and forwarded by the route of Belgium and Germany, is reduced to five pence the half-ounce.

Baron Alphonse de Rothschild, in his own name and in those of MM. Gustave and Edmond de Rothschild, has sent 15,000f. to the society founded to encourage the emigration to Algeria of the Alsace-Lorrainers.

At a meeting held at Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, the sum of £1000 was voted from the balance of the Hartley fund towards the aid of the Pelsall sufferers.

Those ponderous twin pieces of artillery christened "Woolwich Infants," which sank on board the Marlborough at Chatham a week ago, have been recovered.

The extensive woollen mills of Messrs. Gomersall Brothers, at Dewsbury, were on fire on Saturday morning, and in less than half an hour the main buildings were destroyed.

On Thursday the directors of the Bank of England reduced the minimum rate of discount from 7 per cent, at which it was fixed on the 9th inst., to 6 per cent.

On Monday the skiff-race for £100, between James Lally and John Bright, both Newcastle men, came off on the Tyne, from the High-Level Bridge to the Scotswood Suspension Bridge, and was won by Lally, by a length.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Bateman, Josiah, to be Rector of Southchurch, Essex.
Blunt, James St. John; Honorary Chaplain to her Majesty.
Brookes, James; Rector of Croft, Leicestershire.
Bruce, Lloyd; Vicar of Scalby, Scarborough.
Butler, William John; Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.
Byng, the Hon. Francis E. C.; Chaplain in Ordinary to her Majesty.
Cassian, Burnham; Vicar of St. Paul's, Bolton.
Cornwall, A. K.; Rector of Newington-Bagpath with Owlpen, Gloucestershire.
Currey, George; Prebendary of Brownswood in St. Paul's Cathedral.
Deatly, the Ven. Archdeacon; Rector of Swillington.
Day, Maurice; Chapter Librarian at Worcester Cathedral.
Elliott, W. Foster; Rector of Little Chart, Kent.
Elliston, Henry John; Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.
Fitzgerald, Augustus H.; Perpetual Curate of Needham, Norfolk.
Fox, W. C.; Vicar of Frampton Cotterell, Gloucestershire.
Freshfield, J. M.; Incumbent of All Souls', Langham-place.
Friel, William John; Perpetual Curate of St. Luke's, Woodsides, Croydon.
Glyn, the Hon. Edward Carr; Vicar of St. Mary's, Beverley.
Harrison, J. B.; Diocesan Inspector for the county of Leicester.
Haynes, R. J.; Rector of Aston, Rotherham.
Hilton, William; Vicar of Bobbing, Kent.
Hodson, Charles Edward; Naval Chaplain.
Johnston, H. G.; Rector of Tolland, Somerset.
Kempson, Howard; Vicar of Cleeve Priory.
Lawson, F. P.; Diocesan Inspector for the county of Northampton.
Linton, G.; Vicar of Corsham, Wilts.
Marston, C. D.; Vicar of St. Paul's, Brompton.
Massingham, Dr.; Vicar of St. Paul's, Burslem.
Patterson, Robert Stewart; Military Chaplain of the Fourth Class.
Rideout, Gilbert Adolphus; Vicar of Fleet, Dorset.
Robertson, W. H.; Sacrist of Durham Cathedral.
Rogers, T.; Preceptor of Durham Cathedral.
Shaw, T. M.; Curate of Battle, Sussex.
Sleeman, Philip; Curate of Christ Church with St. Ewen, Bristol.
Walker, John Tyrwhitt; Rector of Belaugh with Scotton, Norfolk.
Westbrook, F. S.; Master of St. John's Hospital, Huntingdon.
Wilcox, Arthur Marwood; Curate of Wotton, Surrey.
Woodyatt, George; Vicar of Wychnor, Staffordshire.
Wylie, W. H.; Incumbent of the New Church of Glanford-bridge, near Brigg.

The Very Rev. John Bramston, B.D., was formally installed and instituted to the office of Dean in Winchester Cathedral on Tuesday afternoon by the Lord Bishop of the diocese.

The new church of St. John the Evangelist, Kingston-on-Thames, was consecrated, on Thursday week, by the Bishop of Winchester, in the presence of a large congregation.

A special fund is being raised to complete the tower and spire of the new parish church of Kensington, the body of which has cost £23,000.

The congregation of Christ Church, Claughton, have presented a novel testimonial to the Rev. Dr. Blakeney—viz., a parsonage-house and £200 to defray expenses of removal thereto. The house cost £2090, the amount raised being £2329.

The Rev. Thomas Wood, of Sandwich, who has recently resigned the curacy of Eythorne, which he held for nearly seven years, has been presented with a beautifully-engraved silver inkstand, a penholder, and a pencil-case, by many members of his late congregation, as a mark of their esteem and affection.

At the beginning of the present year three citizens of Bristol promised each to contribute a sum of £1000 towards the completion of the new nave of the cathedral, provided £7000 more was raised from other sources during 1872, as it was then estimated that £10,000 would be sufficient to finish the work, apart from the west front. It is announced that the £7000 has now been raised, thus securing the £3000 conditionally promised, and the success of the restoration project is assured. The last donation of £400, completing the £7000, was made by Mr. K. D. Hodgson, M.P., on the occasion of his recent visit to Bristol.

A general court and election of the Friend of the Clergy Corporation, established for allowing pensions to the widows and daughters of clergymen of the Established Church, was held, on Tuesday, at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of General Adams. At the present time there were one hundred ladies on the pension fund, of whom sixty-two receive £10 each per annum, thirty-six receive £35 per annum, and the others £30 per annum. There were now seventy-two candidates for the three vacancies—the successful candidates being Mrs. Dix, aged fifty-nine; Mrs. Ellaby, aged fifty-nine; and Miss Rowlatt, aged sixty-seven.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

OXFORD.

Prince Leopold matriculated on Wednesday afternoon as a member of Christ Church.

In a recent Convocation W. M. Collett, M.A., Fellow of Oriel; T. L. Papillon, M.A., Fellow of New; S. J. Fremantle, M.A., Senior Student of Christ Church; and T. H. Ward, M.A., Brasenose, were nominated to be Masters of the Schools.

The following elections have been made at Balliol:—I. To three classical scholarships, tenable for five years, two worth £80 a year and one worth £60 a year; open to all such candidates as shall not have completed their nineteenth year on the day of election—1st, Milner, King's; 2nd, Hamilton, Harrow; 3rd, Vaughan, Marlborough. II. To three exhibitions (classical), tenable for five years, two worth £60 a year during residence, and one worth about £90 a year, confined to candidates born in Scotland, or whose fathers have been born in Scotland—1st, Massingham, Norwich; 2nd, Sichel, Harrow; 3rd, Godley, Harrow. *Proxime accessit*—Hobhouse, Balliol. III. To a scholarship on the foundation of Miss Hannah Brackenbury, "for the encouragement of the study of natural science," worth £80 a year for four years—Dorn, Clifton, Taylor, of Giggleswick Grammar School, was distinguished in the examination.

The judges appointed to award a prize of £100 offered for the best essay in confutation of materialism have adjudged the prize to the Rev. W. Jackson, M.A., F.S.A., late Fellow of Worcester.

Mr. Henry Cotton, Q.C., has, it is stated, accepted the appointment vacated by Lord Selborne of Standing Counsel to the University. Mr. Cotton was a student of Christ Church.

CAMBRIDGE.

Mr. James Aiken, of Liverpool, has given a donation of £1000 in aid of the fund for the Cambridge University Lectures for Women.

Intelligence has reached Cambridge of the death of Mr. R. D. Bennett, B.A., law student of Trinity Hall.

This session 1724 students have already matriculated in the different faculties of Edinburgh University.

The Rev. W. Awdry, M.A., Second Master of Winchester College, has been appointed to the Head Mastership of Hurstpierpoint College, in succession to Dr. Lowe, recently made Provost of the midland counties scheme of St. Nicholas College.

Dr. Rolleston, Professor of Anatomy in the University of Oxford, has been appointed to deliver the Harveian Oration at the College of Physicians, London, next year. The Goulstonian Lectures will be given by Dr. R. Liveing, Cantab.; the Croomian, by Dr. Radcliffe, London; and the Lumleian, by Dr. Barnes, London.

NATIVE TRAVELLING IN INDIA.

In those districts of India to which the European railway system has not yet been applied there are several different ways of travelling, as on horseback, in a bullock-waggon, or hackery, or upon an elephant or a camel; but the dák palki, or palanquin, carried on the shoulders of four bearers, who are

relieved at stages of eight or ten miles, is one of the easiest modes of conveyance. It goes on by night and day, at the speed of five miles an hour, the traveller sleeping as in a bed, when so inclined. This is the regular palanquin, provided by the Indian post-office authorities for the dák or mail service, which can be hired at a moderate charge. The palanquin of the dák is very much like the closed litter which used to be

employed, before wheeled carriages mounted on springs were in vogue, for ladies and invalids to travel in England, but with this difference, that instead of being suspended, as the old-fashioned English litter was, to a pair of long shafts, between which two horses were harnessed, one behind and one before, the Indian palanquin is carried by two men in front and two men in the rear.



"LE DEJEUNER," BY PERRAULT.

FROM A PHOTOGRAPH PUBLISHED BY MESSRS. GOUPIL AND CO.

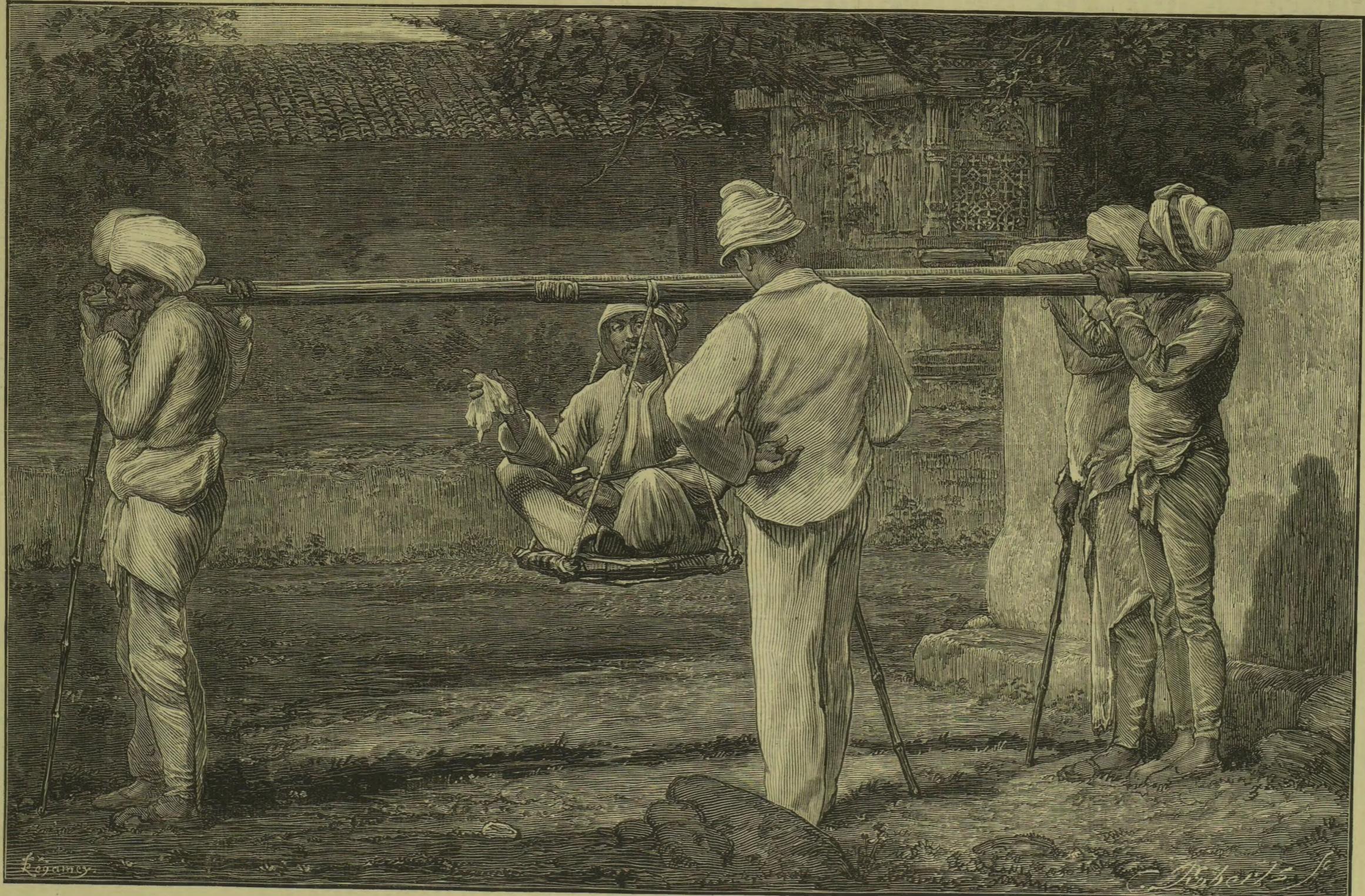
The regular palanquin is a wooden box, 8 ft. long, 4 ft. wide, and 4 ft. high, roofed at the top, and furnished at the sides with wooden shutters, which can be opened at pleasure; and in this vehicle the traveller lies at full length upon a soft cocoa mattress, covered with damask or leather, having a bolster under his head, while drawers and pockets within reach of his hand contain a store of little comforts. But this luxurious accommodation is for the English Government official or other privileged traveller with money enough in his pocket to pay the dák prices; and the middle-class native has to put up with a simpler conveyance, on the same principle, which is shown in our Illustration. It is exactly like a common boy's swing, but hung from two horizontal poles, which the

bearers carry, so that it ought not to jolt much; and the person who sits or squats upon its board may lean his back against the ropes on either side. There is nothing but the custom of his nation to prevent his letting his legs dangle freely, as a European would prefer, instead of doubling them under his body; and though he has no protection from the sun, his position here is more airy, at least, than it would be in a closed palanquin.

"LE DEJEUNER."

This agreeable picture represents a young French peasant-mother feeding her baby-boy from the dish of milk which

supplies his breakfast. It is by M. L. Perrault, a pupil of M. Bouguereau. Indeed, the present work closely resembles a picture by M. Bouguereau which we engraved some months ago. The draughtsmanship, however, of the heads and extremities in this pretty group is much superior to what we generally find in similar subjects by English painters. On the other hand, there is a certain artificiality, which hardly accords with the simple theme, in the almost ostentatious precision of the workmanship. The smooth finish of the surface does not compensate for the necessary sacrifice of the charm of the artist's "touch"; and is, besides, unfavourable to the attainment of the fresher qualities of colour. But these disadvantages are not seen in the Engraving.



NATIVE TRAVELLING IN INDIA.

FINE ARTS.

OLD WATER-COLOUR SOCIETY.

The winter exhibition in Pall-mall East is less than ever distinguishable from the spring show. The proportion of veritable "sketches and studies" appears to us to be smaller than ever. The bulk of the gathering consists of drawings either minutely and elaborately complete, or which have received more or less of the "working up" which appears to be considered necessary before their presentation in the public market. In this collection the true characteristics both of "sketch" and "study" are apt to pass clean out of view; and we therefore think it desirable that the visitor should occasionally revise the definitions of those terms. The word "sketch," then, we take it—although it is applied to any slight and hasty performance—should, to avoid ambiguity, be restricted in art to work done exclusively from nature. Nearly all such work must be executed rapidly, owing to the changeable aspects of scenery, or the movements, and necessity of repose, of the living model; it has consequently the charm, peculiar to itself, of presenting a transcript of nature direct, fresh, truthful, and suggestive, however compendious. A "sketch" may obviously, however, be used as a "study" for a picture, and in this way the terms are often used as convertible. The first hasty idea of the composition of a picture executed without reference to nature is also sometimes called a study instead of a sketch for such picture. But the word "study" is, as its generic signification imports, more correctly employed to describe preparatory portions of a picture or imitations of individual objects thoroughly realised, or experiments in composition and general effect intended for after use. As both words in all cases imply incompleteness, they are not applicable to drawings like most of the contributions here, which are evidently complete and final, though it may be small in scale and of minor importance.

For the reason that most of the exhibitors will be represented more adequately a few months hence, we shall in many cases merely offer cursory mention of their works. We may remark generally, however, that a tendency to imitation among large sections of the younger members is more markedly betrayed than in the summer display. Nearly all the recently-elected figure-painters follow Mr. F. Walker in his method of employing body-colour, and in his rather isolating, extreme finish of figures or prominent accessories on a miniature scale; whilst some of the younger landscape-painters remind one of Mr. A. Hunt's not-always-successful attempts at super-subtlety of detail in form, complexity of pure colour, and great variety of aerial effect—not always harmonised by breadth of gradation. Now we think that this imitative tendency should be disconcerted; for, however admirable the productions of those leading artists, their style unquestionably encourages littleness of treatment and disuse of the broad, transparent methods which, in the hands of the earlier masters, yielded the most distinctive charms of water-colour art.

Mr. Pinwell's "A Long Conversation" (304) between two ugly old countrywomen; Mr. Macbeth's "My Roses" (184)—a bed or nursery of standard roses, with figures, and No. 374—a scene of love-making and jealousy, with tiny young ladies, à la Gainsborough; Mr. E. K. Johnson's drawing (153) of a girl standing beside an organ, with tints of azure, gules, and or, from a stained-glass window, falling on her white dress; and (though larger in execution) Mr. J. B. Houghton's "Full-Dress Rehearsal" (55)—an amusing picture of an Arab putting his performing monkeys through their tricks—all testify to the influence of Mr. Walker. The young master himself has a highly-finished drawing (330), scarcely worthy of his imaginative andceptive powers in subject, but containing some wonderful still-life painting. It represents a fishmonger's shop window, with the great marble stall covered with fish in large variety, which shine and glitter in a manner that is quite dazzling and illusive. The bustling, blue-aproned fishmonger may, we are sure, honestly recommend them to that hesitating young housekeeper as all fresh this morning—as fresh as the eels which the boy stops to watch glide about in the pan in front.

Several figure-painters, however, keep to the old paths. Mr. Dobson's broadly and simply painted "Mother and Child" (34) and No. 205; Mr. F. Tayler's horses and dogs (never more than sketches, and that often of the slightest, yet always effective); Mr. Carl Haag's "Francescano" (105), and Mr. W. Goodall's Italian subjects, are widely removed from the first-mentioned manner. So, too, are Mr. Lundgren's "Cherubs" (323), the mawkish prettiness of which does not prepare one for the stern vigour of his "Italian Conspirators" (118), with its striking effect of interior lighting on the richly-carved consistorial stalls. Intermediately may be placed the works of Mr. J. D. Watson and Mr. A. H. Marsh. The former has numerous single-figure subjects, sometimes rustic, sometimes costumed and pseudo-historic; most of them are graceful in feeling and conscientiously wrought out, but a little more invention, and occasionally less blackness in the background, may be desired. Mr. Marsh makes steady progress. His "Bait-Gatherers" (90), a trio of Cullercoats girls trudging with their creels over the sands, has harmonious breadth of effect and beauty of colour.

Messrs. Stacey, Marks, Birket Foster, and Sir John Gilbert are more individualised in style. Mr. Marks has a "first sketch" for his picture, "Waiting the Procession." But his special skill as a designer of mural works is better shown in some decorative figure-subjects, including the "Design for the Proscenium Frieze at the Gaiety Theatre" (377). Few artists so well understand the flat treatment (on one plane) required in such decorations. Mr. Foster seems to be less at home in his one large landscape drawing of "St. Andrews" (30), with the great breakers buffeting the foot of the headland, than in his smaller combinations of figures and landscape. There is tremendous commotion of the sea without corresponding impressiveness: the sense of vague terror and mystery which an angry sea excites is wanting.

Sir John Gilbert's great powers of picturesque grouping, his extraordinary facility of handling and fertility of resource, united to rather more severity of draughtsmanship than usual, are worthily exemplified in a large decorative composition of innumerable figures, representing the principal characters of Shakespeare's plays (108). But to our mind the most complete and admirable drawing which Sir John exhibits here, or perhaps that he has ever exhibited, is "The Burial of John Knox" (15). A deeper imaginative sympathy pervades this drawing than we remember to have recognised in any previous work, and the artist seems to have done at once more justice to himself and to his subject. It is not merely that the stern, stanch character of the Reformers mourning over the grave of their fearless champion is dramatically conceived, but the whole is attuned to a sainness of tone that is most impressive because not obviously sought for; above all, there is no display of technical or manual skill of a kind to draw attention from the solemnity of the theme.

The landscapes constitute, as usual, the major part of the collection—a portion so extensive, indeed, that an exhaustive

review of all that is more or less commendable would far exceed our limits. The public will know what to expect, however, when we say that among the old favourites fairly represented are Messrs. Duncan, whose unaffected simplicity is always acceptable, even in his slightest work; Dodson, who has put unusual vigour into some sparkling sketches of shadylens; Whittaker, who not unsuccessfully emulates the breadth and power of David Cox in dealing with Welsh scenery; E. A. Goodall, whose Egyptian views have a decision and strength not always found in previous works—see for confirmation No. 331; C. Davidson, always a faithful student of nature—see particularly the "Cornfield, Streatley Hill, Berks" (316); Naftel—who, happily, is avoiding the prevailing pinkness of his former colouring; T. M. Richardson, T. Danby, A. P. Newton, J. J. Jenkins, H. Gastineau, S. P. Jackson, W. Collingwood, C. Smith, the Callows, and others. Mr. Brittan Willis's cattle-pieces are likewise quite up to their usual mark—No. 97, "A Scene Near Guildford," is, indeed, an uncommonly beautiful drawing; and there are clever animal studies by Mr. Basil Bradley. Mr. G. H. Andrews has a single, but large and spirited, drawing of a Dutch East Indiaman ashore at the entrance to the Zuyder Zee (271). Mr. Deane continues his series of delicately and artistically coloured Venetian views. Mr. J. Nash sends a view of the interior of St. Paul's on the occasion of the Thanksgiving ceremony (215); and Mr. Burgess contributes his usual quota of architectural pieces.

Among the new members Mr. Brierly makes good his recent déb with an interesting series of sketches taken in Egypt, when accompanying the Prince of Wales, and a large sketch (133) of the return of the fleet with the Queen from Cherbourg, in 1858. His most effective drawing, artistically, however, is a moonlight marine piece, with a ship labouring in a heavy sea (54). Mr. H. Clarence Whaite's "Gipsy Camp—Sunset" (53) recalls similar effects by Mr. Palmer; and the two Welsh views (78 and 84), though fine drawings in some respects, have a hotness in the lights foiled by rather opaque shadows which inclines to conventionalism. Messrs. Hale, North, and Albert Goodwin seem to be influenced by the refined style or feeling of Mr. Alfred Hunt. The first named sends several sketches unobtrusive but excellent (notably No. 351); the contributions of the two latter include sketches of more pretension as regards dimensions, but are hardly correspondingly successful. Both aim at expressing the tender gradations of misty atmospheric effect, but Mr. North rather misses his mark through over-emphasising the beautiful details of plants and foliage which catch his eye, and which he renders with loving care and delicacy, witness "The Boundary of the Park" (109). Mr. Goodwin paints with a much broader touch, but the touch is too uniformly evident; and, too much reliance being at the same time placed on the general impression, his representations, in the distance especially, appear, so to speak, laboriously vacant—as in the extensive view (272) at sunrise over the plain which stretches beneath the convent-crowned heights of Assisi. This is still more noticeable in "The Venetian Fruit Market" (247), a large sketch, not a little vapid and mannered. Mr. Alfred Hunt best sustains his reputation in a lovely view of "Thun" (345), full of sunlight and air. The frank and comparatively broad sketchiness of the "Parthenon" (341) is rather a surprise from his hand. There are also studies by him of Bamborough, two of them in sepia, for exhibited oil pictures.

Mr. Powell varies his singularly truthful, if slightly hard, studies of rough seas, of which "Outside the Craig" (216) is a good example, by a striking study of the precipitous cliffs on the coast of Sutherlandshire (166)—the same which Mr. Peter Graham rendered memorable in his "Cradle of the Sea-Bird." Mr. Samuel Read has also explored and represented very effectively similarly stupendous scenery in a journey which has taken him to the "Coast of Caithness" (194), to "John o'Groats" (277), and to "The Old Man of Hoy" in distant Orkney (312). It is, perhaps, surprising that our artists have not more frequently depicted these tremendous rocks, falling sheer down to the sea, splintered here and there into gigantic vertical fragments, with countless myriads of sea-birds perched on every ledge of the strata, or circling in the air till they whiten the distance, like drifting cloud-wreaths. Mr. Alfred Fripp is to be congratulated on the increased freedom of handling, and a transparent purity of colouring—rivaling the charm of his brother's works, which are evinced in his landscape sketches, such as the "View in Poole Harbour." Mr. Boyce has several landscape bits, with their customary merits and shortcomings; but his almost photographic accuracy is most serviceably employed on his studies of the famous tombs at Verona. The following members and associates do not contribute:—W. Evans, George Fripp, Holman Hunt, T. R. Lamont, S. Palmer, and F. W. Topham.

On the 21st inst. died Mr. Richard James Lane, A.R.A., in his seventy-third year. Mr. Lane was one of the two Associate Engravers of the "old class" on the Academic role; and his associateship was one of the oldest in date. He won his reputation as a lithographer many years ago, before lithography had been comparatively superseded by other rival processes. Formerly lithographic copies of the portraits of courtly, fashionably, or otherwise distinguished personages were in request, and Mr. Lane contributed largely to supply the popular demand. By his skill in this line he obtained his position in the Academy. He likewise executed some original lithographic portraits; and reproduced subject-pictures in the same medium. He also wrote on art; and some humorous rhymes of a satirical and personal application, now forgotten, have been attributed to him.

We have also to announce the death of Mr. John Partridge, aged eighty-three, who in his day was a portrait-painter of considerable ability and repute. He once stood so high that he was appointed portrait-painter to her Majesty; and his portraits of the Queen and Prince Consort in the International Exhibition of 1862 will probably be remembered by our readers. Mr. Partridge did not for a long period exhibit at the Royal Academy in consequence of his conceiving that he had been unfairly used by rivals in that body; and in recent years he criticised the constitution and working of the Academy in pamphlets and in the pages of the *Athenaeum* with great vigour.

A collection of pictures and sketches by the late George Mason, A.R.A., will shortly be opened in the rooms of the Burlington Club.

The Emperor of Germany has conferred the gold medal for art on M. E. de Schamphelleer, landscape-painter, and M. J. Franks, engraver, both of Brussels, and M. Alma Tadema, of London. The King of Holland has conferred the gold medal first class on M. E. van Heemskerke, marine-painter, for his pictures in the Amsterdam Exhibition.

The serial work containing M. Doré's illustrations of "London" (parts of which we have noticed on one or two former occasions) is brought, with marked improvement, to a conclusion in the number for the present month. M. Doré's recent designs show somewhat closer observation and less

licence; his figures are not so entirely un-English, his physiognomies are less elongated and mannered. A subject affording materials so inexhaustible in quantity and variety as London could not fail to present countless aspects and incidents well suited to M. Doré's great though peculiar illustrative powers. Speaking generally, however, the theme was not for him a well-chosen one. The designer's strength resides in the resources of his imagination, not in the faculty of truly representing actualities. Moreover, he seems to share the egotism of his countrymen, which blunts their perceptions of foreign characteristics; and he has also in large proportion the Frenchman's equally inveterate habits of exaggeration. Many of these illustrations, like the crowded "City Thoroughfare" and the absurd "New Zealander" on the ruins of London Bridge, in the present Number, must appear to Londoners themselves as forced and extravagant. On the other hand, the illustrations of fashionable and civic réunions, such as the Garden Party at Holland House, an Evening at the Mansion House, and a Cricket-Match at Lord's, are surprisingly tame. M. Doré's pencil is most congenitally employed in depicting, under Rembrandtesque light effects, the haunts and sufferings of the poorest and criminal classes. A small design, for example, at the end of Mr. Blanchard Jerrold's "Preface," representing a group of women and children asleep, under a starlight sky, in what may be a recess on one of the bridges, is most pathetic and beautiful, and is, at the same time, a gem of wood engraving. The book is splendidly "got up"; and M. Doré has been, as usual, very fortunate in most of his engravers.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P. for Westminster, has returned from his tour through Canada and the United States.

The 1st Tower Hamlets Artillery Corps has been disbanded, by order of the Secretary for War.

The Home for Little Boys has received a second donation of £1000 from its benefactor, who uses the initials "H. L. B."

The recommendation of the City Police Committee for an addition of eighty men to the force has been agreed to by the Court of Common Council.

The amateur dramatic society which styles itself the "Erratics" gave a successful performance at St. George's Hall yesterday week in aid of the London Hospital.

"Guy Fawkes," the young hippopotamus, was visible to the select public in the Zoological Society's Gardens on Sunday. His health is reported to be excellent.

The annual ball in aid of the fund of the London Coffee and Eating House Keepers' Benevolent Association is fixed to take place on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 1873, at the Cannon-street Hotel.

Mr. Henry Dickens, a son of the late Mr. Charles Dickens, who obtained a very creditable place in the last mathematical tripos examination at Cambridge, has joined the Society of the Inner Temple.

Lord Overstone has sent £100 towards the completion of the church for the Deaf and Dumb, in reply to Lord Ebury's appeal. Contributions may be sent to Messrs. Dimsdale and Co., 50, Cornhill; or to the Rev. Samuel Smith, St. Saviour's, Oxford-street W.

At a Court of Directors of the Bank of England it has been arranged to nominate Mr. Benjamin Buck Greene, the present Deputy Governor, for Governor, and Mr. Henry Hucks Gibbs, of the firm of Anthony Gibbs and Sons, as Deputy Governor, at the election in April next.

On Tuesday the first annual meeting of the National Union for Improving the Education of Women was held at the rooms of the Society of Arts. Lord Lyttelton presided, and amongst the speakers were Mr. C. S. Roundell, Mr. W. D. Christie, Canon Barry, Miss Emily Davies, and the Rev. W. Arthur.

Mr. Justice Denman and Mr. Justice Archibald were entertained at a banquet last Saturday evening by the members of the Home Circuit. The chair was taken by Mr. M. Chambers, M.P. Besides the guests of the evening, the Judges present were Chief Justice Bovill, Chief Baron Kelly, and Baron Bramwell.

Monsignor Capel has purchased Abingdon House, with its two acres or ground, in Wright's-lane, Kensington, for the foundation of a day-school wherein mathematics, physical science, modern languages, and the English tongue are to be taught by efficient and well-trained masters, with a sound religious and Roman Catholic education.

In Richmond Park the Inns of Court Rifle Volunteers, familiarly known as the "Devil's Own," were inspected, on Wednesday, by Colonel Daubeny—going through the usual operations of a field-day with much efficiency, not least on the part of the officers. The corps, which mustered 327 men under arms, held its dinner in the evening in the Inner Temple Hall.

Dr. Lankester, at an inquest held on Wednesday morning, in the Gray's-inn-road, on the body of an infant who had been suffocated while in bed with its mother, said that more than 3000 infants were suffocated in England every year from being put to the breast and their mothers falling asleep. In Bavaria there was a law which prohibited parents having children under two years old with them in bed, the result being that instances of suffocation of infants were very rare there.

A committee of Danish residents in London has been formed to co-operate with a Copenhagen committee for the relief of the multitudes who have been wrecked in their homes and deprived of the means of subsistence by the rising of the Baltic, which, under the influence of a tremendous hurricane, has desolated some of the most fertile coasts of Denmark. Subscriptions will be received by the Bank of Scotland, Lombard-street; and by Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co., Lombard-street.

At Wednesday's meeting of the London School Board the resignation of Sir Thomas Tilson was announced, on account of failing health. A deputation of managers of voluntary schools, having been introduced, protested against what they termed the extravagant expenditure of the board. Lord Lawrence promised that due attention should be paid to the representations which had been made, and assured the deputation that the board were really endeavouring to supply efficient education without subverting the establishments which already exist.

Colonel Hogg, M.P., headed a deputation of the Metropolitan Board of Works last Saturday, the object of which was to ask Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Lowe to aid the board in freeing the whole of the London bridges from toll by means of a further continuation of the coal and wine duties. These bridges are about twelve in number, and include, besides the bridges over the Thames, one over Deptford-creek and one or two over the river Lea. The Ministers promised that the representations made should be well considered, and that the Cabinet should be consulted upon the matter.

The total number of paupers in the metropolitan district last week was 106,778, of whom 34,882 were in workhouses and 71,896 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in 1871, 1870, and 1869, these numbers show a decrease of 11,742, 30,635, and 35,668 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved was 779, of whom 512 were men, 191 women, and 46 children under sixteen.

"Hospital Sunday," a well-known and honoured institution in many provincial towns, bids fair to be introduced into the metropolis. A preliminary meeting of gentlemen officially connected with the London Hospitals has unanimously affirmed the desirability of adopting the principle, and a committee has been appointed to place matters in train for a public meeting, under the Lord Mayor's presidency.

Six months ago the Society for the Organisation of Charitable Relief called attention to the evil results of the system of electing pensioners of charitable institutions by voting and canvassing. The society hit a real blot in the administration of such institutions. The committee for ascertaining the wishes of the subscribers to the Royal Hospital for Incurables has now issued its report. 1090 answers, representing 2988 votes, have been received. Only 165 are in favour of retaining the present system of election, while 925, representing 2375 votes out of the 2988, are in favour of selection by a committee, after careful investigation into the merits of the cases.

The People's Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall are to be brought to a close on Monday evening next, with a reading of Shakespeare's "As You Like It," by Miss Julia St. George, accompanied by appropriate music and a miscellaneous concert, also a performance on the great organ. A series of twelve concerts was originally announced, to begin on March 12, and be continued in April and May, for the purpose of "enabling all classes to enjoy music in the Royal Albert Hall"—the prices of admission being from one penny to three shillings. This series was so successful that it was determined by the Council to continue the concerts weekly. That for next Monday will be the fortieth and last. The previous thirty-nine have been attended by about 156,000 persons.

The Lord Mayor presided, on Thursday week, at the annual distribution of prizes amongst the students of the arts and science classes of the national school, Bethnal-green. He said that if boys attended these classes it must be for the sake of the classes themselves, as they were held at times when other boys were at play. It had been said that while the English could manufacture all the ordinary articles of life, they lacked the artistic skill which distinguished the workmen on the Continent. He thought that such establishments as these science and art schools would put them upon a better footing. Their effect would display itself in the future by the increased taste and artistic skill of the English artisans.

Mr. R. Moon, the chairman of the London and North-Western Railway Company, was yesterday week presented by the shareholders in that undertaking with a service of plate, from special designs in the Louis XIV. style, comprising three candelabra, two large and two small flower-vases, two claret-jugs, two sugar-vases, four saltcellars, and a complete set of spoons, forks, and knives, all in silver, richly gilt. Accompanying this service was a lady's dressing-case, a magnificent set of diamond and sapphire ornaments, and two sets of bracelets and brooches, composed of amethysts and pearls, intended as gifts to Mrs. and Miss Moon. The banquet which furnished the occasion of the presentation of these splendid tokens of the shareholders' gratitude was held at the Euston station, under the presidency of the Duke of Sutherland.

At a meeting of the vestry of St. George the Martyr, Southwark, on Tuesday, a letter was read from the Hon. Cowper-Temple, M.P., chairman of the Commons Preservation Society, stating that Mr. Francis Peck had promised to contribute £7500, provided that the governors of Dulwich College would dedicate for the public use 150 acres of their estate and farm and maintain the same as a park. The proposition had been laid before the governors of Dulwich College, who had come to the conclusion that they would not be able, under their Act of Parliament, to apply any portion of their estate as desired. As, however, a new scheme for the organisation of the estates of the charity was about to be considered, the society desired the vestry to assist them in securing the means to obtain a new park for the increasing and populous neighbourhoods of Walworth, Camberwell, and Dulwich. A motion approving of the formation of the park was adopted by the vestry.

On Wednesday evening a conference, called by Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., was held in the Mission-Rooms, Blomfield-street, to receive a report of work done by the Home Missionary Society, and to consider the best means of extending its usefulness. From a report read by the Rev. J. H. Wilson it appeared that the society sustains, or assists in sustaining, 135 home-mission pastors and ninety-five evangelists, who visit from house to house, and are colporteurs as well as visitors; and that during the past few years they have sold 800,000 magazines, 15,000 bibles, and distributed more than a million and a half of tracts amongst the rural population of England and Wales; and that in this work they had been ably supported by more than 2000 voluntary Christian workers as lay preachers and teachers in the Sunday schools. Mr. Morley, as treasurer of the society, spoke warmly in its favour, and showed that it was never more required than at the present day. A conversation then ensued, in which many of the ministers and other gentlemen present took part, and subscriptions were given in, most of them extending over a period of five years, and amounting to £1000, the income of the society last year being £6000.

Last week 2277 births and 1277 deaths were registered in London. After making due allowance for increase of population, the births exceeded by 9, while the deaths were no less than 455 below, the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The annual death-rate from all causes, which had been equal to but 19 per 1000 in each of the two previous weeks, rose last week to 20. The 1277 deaths included 13 from smallpox, 11 from measles, 23 from scarlet fever, 5 from diphtheria, 26 from whooping-cough, 19 from different forms of fever (of which 1 was certified as typhus, 11 as enteric, or typhoid, and 4 as simple continued fever), and 14 from diarrhoea: thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 111 deaths were referred, against numbers declining steadily from 160 to 109 in the five preceding weeks. The deaths from these seven diseases were, in the aggregate, 201 below the corrected average number in the corresponding week of the last ten years. Diseases of the respiratory organs and phthisis caused 432 deaths, against numbers declining from 813 to 393 in the four preceding weeks; the corrected average number of deaths from the same causes in the corresponding week of the last ten years was 625. The recent ten days of low temperature appear to have unfavourably influenced the number of deaths referred to bronchitis, phthisis, and heart diseases.—In the week 5421 births and 3382 deaths were registered in London and twenty other large cities and towns of the United Kingdom. The mortality from all causes in these towns was at the rate of 24 deaths annually to every 1000 persons estimated to be living.

LAW AND POLICE.

In a breach of promise case, "Andrews v. Soltau," in which the plaintiff claimed £5000, the Secondaries Court at Guildhall yesterday week assessed damages. Defendant was a widower, and the plaintiff is now forty years of age. The jury awarded the lady £1500.

In the Court of Common Pleas has begun the trial of the action for libel brought by Mr. Hepworth Dixon against the *Pall Mall Gazette*. The question involved is whether the limits of criticism have not been exceeded in some reviews of Mr. Dixon's books.

A trial which threatens to be prolonged, and promises to be somewhat amusing in its disclosures, came on last Saturday in the Court of Probate and Divorce, before the new Judge, Sir James Hannan. The will of a maiden lady in Westmorland, who died in March last, leaving about £100,000 to a gentleman named Rogers—who seems to have won her affections in her sixtieth year—is disputed on the grounds of irregularity, incapacity, and ignorance; but Dr. Deane, in opening the case for the plaintiffs, who maintain the will, affirmed the perfect soundness of the testatrix's mind at the time of execution.

On behalf of a lady named Lowe, the wife of a clergyman, an application was made, yesterday week, to the Court of Queen's Bench for a rule calling upon five of the Commissioners in Lunacy to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against them for illegally detaining her in a lunatic asylum. Their Lordships, however, after hearing the argument in favour of the motion, refused the rule.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Wednesday, an action was tried in which Mr. Harding, an accountant, recovered £650 damages against Messrs. Baxendale, the well-known carriers, for injuries inflicted upon two pictures in their transit from London to Paris. During the hearing the practice of "bidding to keep up the prices" of paintings which are offered for sale by auction elicited an expression of disapprobation from Mr. Justice Quain.

Mr. Cooke, the magistrate at Clerkenwell, has dismissed the summons against Mr. Rowcliffe, which had been taken out by the Rev. James Kelly, charging the defendant with libel.

The lady known as the "Countess of Derwentwater" was arrested, on Monday, and lodged in Newcastle Gaol, for contempt of the county court.

Police-Constable Tyers, of the P division of the Metropolitan Police, was, on Thursday week, prosecuted at Lambeth for a violation of duty. The charge arose out of the recent insubordination in the force, and a sentence of three weeks' imprisonment, without hard labour, was passed. Sergeant Malt of the D division, again appeared before the Marylebone magistrate last Saturday on a charge of violation of duty. He was fined £10. At Bow-street Police Sergeant Gasking, of the E division, was sent to prison for a month for violation of duty. At Greenwich, Police-Constable Charles Willoughby was brought up for a violation of duty, and also for drunkenness. He was fined £5.

Paul Julius Mai, who was acquitted last week of the murder of Hermann Nagel, was, on Monday, charged at Bow-street, under the extradition treaty with Germany, with having committed a forgery in Berlin. Sir Thomas Henry committed him to take his trial in the Prussian capital.

The proceedings at the Mansion House, on Saturday, ended in the conviction of the manager and others connected with the so-called "Exchange Club," and in the infliction of fines varying from £5 to £50.

Two men were charged at Clerkenwell, yesterday week, with breaking into a house at Islington, and carrying off, among other things, an iron safe containing ten gold rings and other jewellery. The owner of the house and his family had been to a music-hall, and, on their return, found the place stripped. The prisoners were committed for trial.

The Lord Chief Justice informed the Attorney-General, on Saturday, that the trial of the Claimant will not take place until next Easter Term. The case is to begin on the fifth day of the term and proceed until it is ended.

Mr. John Edward Protheroe was fined £12, at Hammersmith, yesterday week, for having falsely described himself as a registered medical practitioner.

Drusilla Skarratt, a gipsy hawker, was ordered, at Wandsworth, yesterday week, to be imprisoned for three months for fortune-telling. The prosecutrix, a servant who had just lost her place, had the simplicity to intrust £3 16s., the whole of her wages, with the prisoner, on her pretence that, having wrapped the money in the girl's apron, she would return with it shortly and tell her fortune. At the police station the impostor declared that, "if there were no fools, there would be no living" for such as her.

Several charges of assaulting the police were heard before the magistrates on Monday, and sentences were passed varying from a fine of 40s. to six weeks' imprisonment, with hard labour. At Westminster, on Tuesday, a respectably-dressed man named William Brown was convicted of assaulting two policemen in the execution of their duty. He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour; but later in the day this was commuted to a penalty of £13.

On Wednesday, at the Mansion House, William Saunders Newton, lately the manager of the Chertsey branch of the London and County Bank, was committed for trial on a charge of embezzlement. At Guildhall, the summons against a woman named Fox, for alleged perjury in a recent trial at the Old Bailey, was dismissed. At Westminster, a fine of £20 and £10 costs was inflicted upon the National Tontine Association for not having a registered place of business.

Two policemen, finding the door of a public-house in the Adelphi open at four o'clock in the morning, entered and went up stairs. They were taken for burglars by the landlord, who cut at them with a sword, while the landlady was about to fire a pistol at them, when the discovery was made that they were guardians of the peace.

The Liverpool magistrates, yesterday week, committed for trial Robinson and Bailey, charged with embezzling £13,000, the moneys of their employer, Mr. E. P. Parry, sugar-broker. The prisoners had speculated on the Stock Exchange.

A commercial traveller from London, named Goodwin, has been sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for defrauding Sheffield pawnbrokers by means of sham jewellery.

Charter and Hardwick, the two men charged with the Pickering murders, have been committed for trial.

An agrarian outrage in Ireland ended disastrously for the criminal. One Kearney attempted to shoot Mr. Creagh, a landed proprietor, near Ennis. The weapon used was a blunderbuss, and it burst in the hands of the assassin, who sustained very serious injuries. The police tracked him for some distance, and found him at last in a surgery undergoing the amputation of one of his hands. Mr. Creagh was not injured.

A CHINESE FAMILY.

The peasantry of China, as of most other countries, live a hard and laborious life, with not much leisure for the caprices of fashion; and we observe that, in this family, whose household interior forms the subject of our Illustration, neither has the woman compressed her feet to the diminutive elegance of Chinese dames *comme il faut*, nor has the man been observant of that rule of good society which ordains the shaving of the front and back of the head, leaving only the hair of the crown to form a dangling pigtail. This lamentable dereliction of their excellent national customs, which must expose the poor people to aristocratic scorn and disdain whenever they presume to appear in the presence of ladies and gentlemen, is accompanied by other signs of the barbarism too commonly attendant upon a state of poverty; and we should not be surprised to learn that the cooking utensils, with which that ugly girl is at present busied, contain the elements of rat or lizard soup, or a broth of boiled earth-worms. The placid husband and father is smoking his pipe of tobacco or opium, after his day's work, and will soon forget the cares and toils of his humble lot in the repose which he has doubtless earned. The babe suspended at its mother's back is not likely to attain a higher social condition when it grows up to manhood. These persons seem to be engaged in the business of rearing plants for sale in the market, to judge from the large earthenware pots, filled with such productions, which occupy the middle of the yard before their house.

THE GALES.

Following the usual course of gales from the Atlantic Ocean, that of Saturday struck the British Islands at the south of Ireland and at Land's End—one part of the storm sweeping over the greater part of Ireland and the midland and northern counties of England, while the centre of the other part of the storm passed over the Channel in a S.W., W., and N.W. direction. Eight men belonging to the Himalaya troop-ship, which recently arrived at Devonport, were drowned on Saturday by the capsizing of a boat in Hamoaze. During the same gale a Norwegian boat was capsized in Queenstown harbour, and four seamen and the captain, who was putting off to his ship, were drowned. The loss is reported of the steamer Kinsale, trading between the Clyde and Cork and Waterford. She was driven ashore near the latter port through her engine-shaft breaking during the storm. The mate and two seamen were the only members of the crew saved, the number drowned, including nine passengers, being twenty-six. The gale was also experienced in Scotland. The screw-steamer Leith, of Newcastle, was wrecked on the Forfarshire coast. The crew were saved by the rocket apparatus. An emigrant-ship, the Royal Adelaide, bound from London to Sydney, South Australia, has been lost in West Bay, near Weymouth, in ineffectually attempting to get within the shelter of the Portland breakwater. A considerable number of men, women, and children were got off in safety by means of the rocket apparatus, two, however, being drowned in the attempt to land; but several of the crew and passengers refused to leave the ship, and perished in consequence.

The following services were rendered by life-boats of the National Institution. The Whitburn life-boat performed noble work in saving, after several gallant and determined efforts, fifteen persons, including four women and children, from the stranded barque Canada Belle, of Whitby. Again, the Abersoch life-boat was out, in reply to signals of distress, in weather which was at times approaching a hurricane. She was, fortunately, enabled to save the crew of four men from the schooner Maria, of Aberystwith. The Plymouth life-boat, the Prince Consort, rescued from the brigantine Laurel the master and his wife and a crew of seven men. The Port Isaac life-boat saved the fishing-luggers Castle and J. T. K., belonging to that place, and their crews of eight men. The Swansea life-boat saved fourteen men from an Italian brig which had gone ashore in that bay. The Newcastle (Dundrum) life-boat also saved eight men from the barque Julian, of Riga, ashore in Dundrum Bay. Altogether, during the storms of the present month alone, the institution's boats have saved 143 lives from different shipwrecks, besides aiding, when other means failed, to save eight vessels from destruction.

The Old Etonians won the football-match against the Old Harrovians on Saturday last.

From many parts of the provinces there is intelligence of a brilliant display of meteors having been witnessed on Wednesday evening. Aurora was seen in Scotland and a brilliant display of meteors.

On Wednesday the limestone-miners of Dudley held a mass meeting, at which it was unanimously resolved to continue the struggle with their employers, which has already lasted nineteen weeks.

Several hundred tons of cliff, loosened by the late heavy rains, fell early on Tuesday morning at Dover. Fortunately, warned by the downfall of a week ago, the inhabitants of houses at East Cliff had betaken themselves to safer dwellings. No. 57, East Cliff, was razed to the ground, carrying with it an end wall of No. 56, and damaging No. 58. No lives were lost.

In a long letter to the *Times* respecting the crops of this year, Mr. James Caird speculates upon the probable extent of the foreign wheat required for the bread supply of the United Kingdom, and the sources whence the deficiency of potatoes in Great Britain is likely to be made good. It would be unsafe, he thinks, to reckon on a requirement of less than 1,000,000 quarters of wheat per month to supplement the home growth of the kingdom. Any decided rise in the price of bread would cause a proportionate economy in consumption, which, as in the crop of 1867, he estimates at 5 per cent on the total home and foreign supply, by which a saving of fully 1,000,000 quarters might be effected. On the other hand, we began the season with a small stock, and the high price of potatoes will have a tendency to increase the consumption of wheat. This brings him to the conclusion that we are likely to require in the harvest year—September, 1872, to September, 1873—12,000,000 quarters of foreign wheat and flour. This, he adds, is the largest quantity we have ever yet imported, and it will be interesting to inquire whether we are likely to receive it, and what price it may be necessary to pay for it. France has this year had wonderfully good crops; and this is not only advantageous to herself, but beneficial to us in the double quality that it takes her out of the market as a competitor and has enabled her, during the last two months, to contribute to our wants at a rate of 40 per cent higher than she has ever previously done in her years of greatest abundance. The prices ruling during the last two months have brought up the unprecedented supply of 2,581,000 quarters, or at the rate of more than 16,000,000 quarters within the year—an import considerably greater than we seem likely to require. The great bulk of the wheat crop in England was harvested in fine condition. The deliveries are at present small, but the weather for out-of-door thrashing has been most unpropitious.



NEW BANK AT
LEICESTER.

The Leicester branch of the National Provincial Bank of England was opened, a short time since, under the management of Mr. J. S. Brand. The new building shown in our Engraving occupies the site of the Old Three Crowns Hotel, at the corner of Granby-street and the Horsefair. The premises contain a general bank office, 58 ft. by 31 ft., with strong rooms, consulting-room, and lavatories on the ground floor; the whole of the two upper stories being appropriated for the manager's residence. The Italian style of the façade is modified in its details to suit the peculiarities of the English climate, which have also controlled the selection of the materials for the exterior—viz., Diseworth white brick with stone dressings. The design, by Messrs. Millican and Smith, architects, was selected from a limited competition among the local profession, and has been carried out by Messrs. Osborne Brothers, builders, also of Leicester.

RABBITS AT THE
CRYSTAL PALACE.

The Crystal Palace annual poultry show, held during three days of last week, was the largest yet seen, comprising 3217 pens filled with poultry, pigeons, and rabbits. There were fine specimens of every class on view. The poultry, of which there were 2165 entries, including ducks, geese, and turkeys, were of all the approved varieties; Dorkings, Cochins, Brahmas, Spanish fowls, Houdans, Crêve Cœurs, Hamburgs, Polish birds, Malays, Sil�ies, dif-



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ferent sorts of game birds. Bantams, some samples of Andalusians, Frieslanders, Bankiva jungle fowl, Leghorns, Plymouth rocks, Scotch "dumplies" or "droodlies," and other varieties of home or foreign breed. The pigeons included pointers, carriers, dragons, tumblers, barbs, Jacobins, fantails, nuns, trumpeters, turbits, runts, Antwerps, the magpie and owl varieties, and others. The rabbits consisted of the different lop-eared varieties, with Angoras, Himalayans, Patagonians, Abyssinians, and other foreigners. The animals of this species which gained some of the best prizes are shown in our Illustration. In front, at the bottom of the page, are two lop-eared rabbits; the first, grey and white, aged seven months, shown by Mr. A. H. Easten, of Hull; the next, of a bluish smut colour, ten months old, belonging to Mr. F. Banks, of Doughty-street, London. Above these, in the middle of the page, is the lop-eared rabbit of Mr. Easten, nineteen months old; with the Angora white rabbit, aged two years and a half, sent from Manchester by Mr. W. Whitworth. Each of these won a first-class prize cup. Looking higher up the page, the white and black doe, with young ones, to the left hand, is one of the Abyssinian breed, shown by Mr. T. J. Inman, of Hackney, which was not eligible for a prize. Above her sits a white and black Himalayan, the exhibitor of which was Mr. B. S. Rothwell, of Rochdale, gaining a first-prize cup. Two Dutch rabbits are on the opposite side, one sent by Mr. W. Whitworth, the other by Mr. C. Martin, of Kettering.



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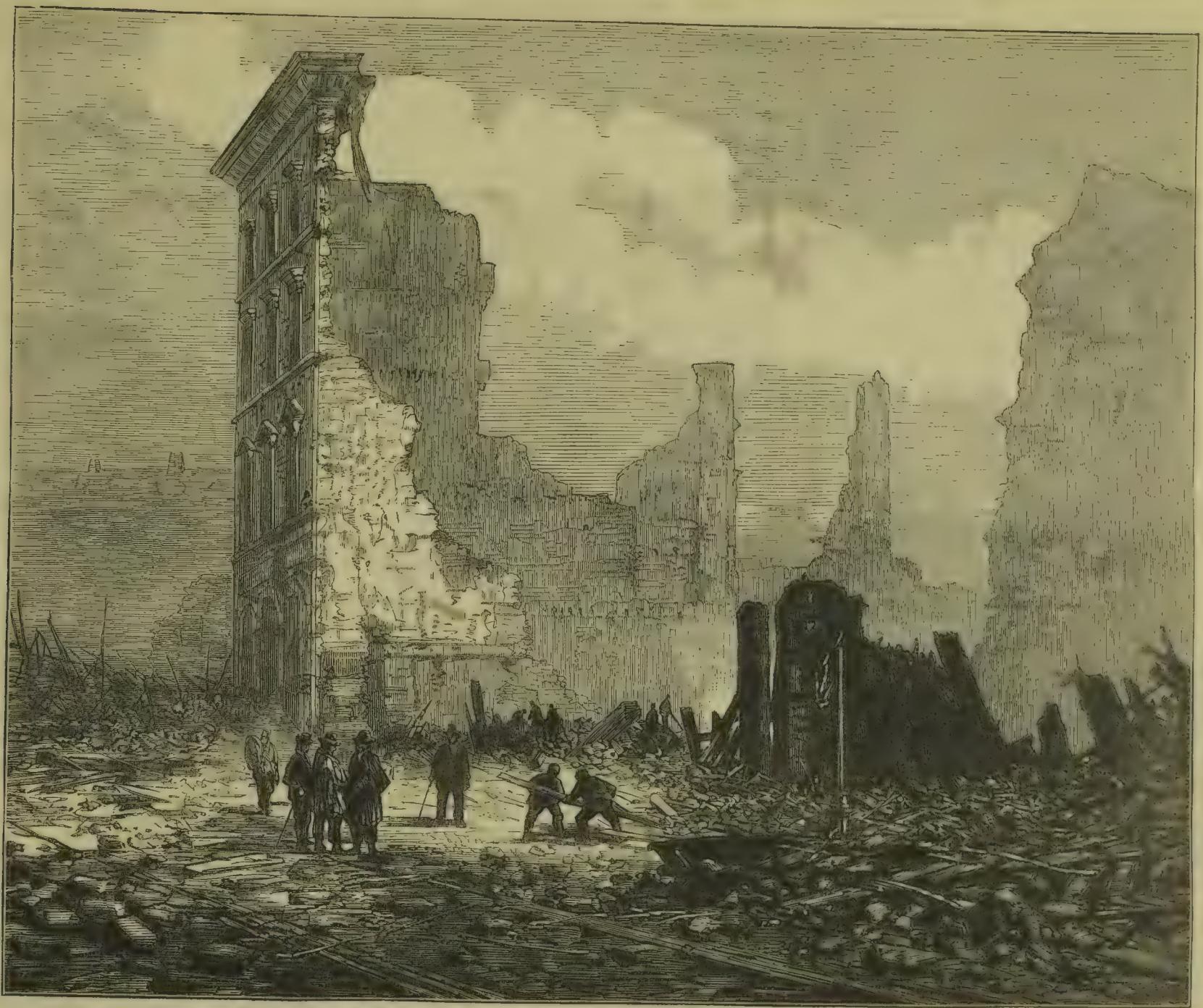
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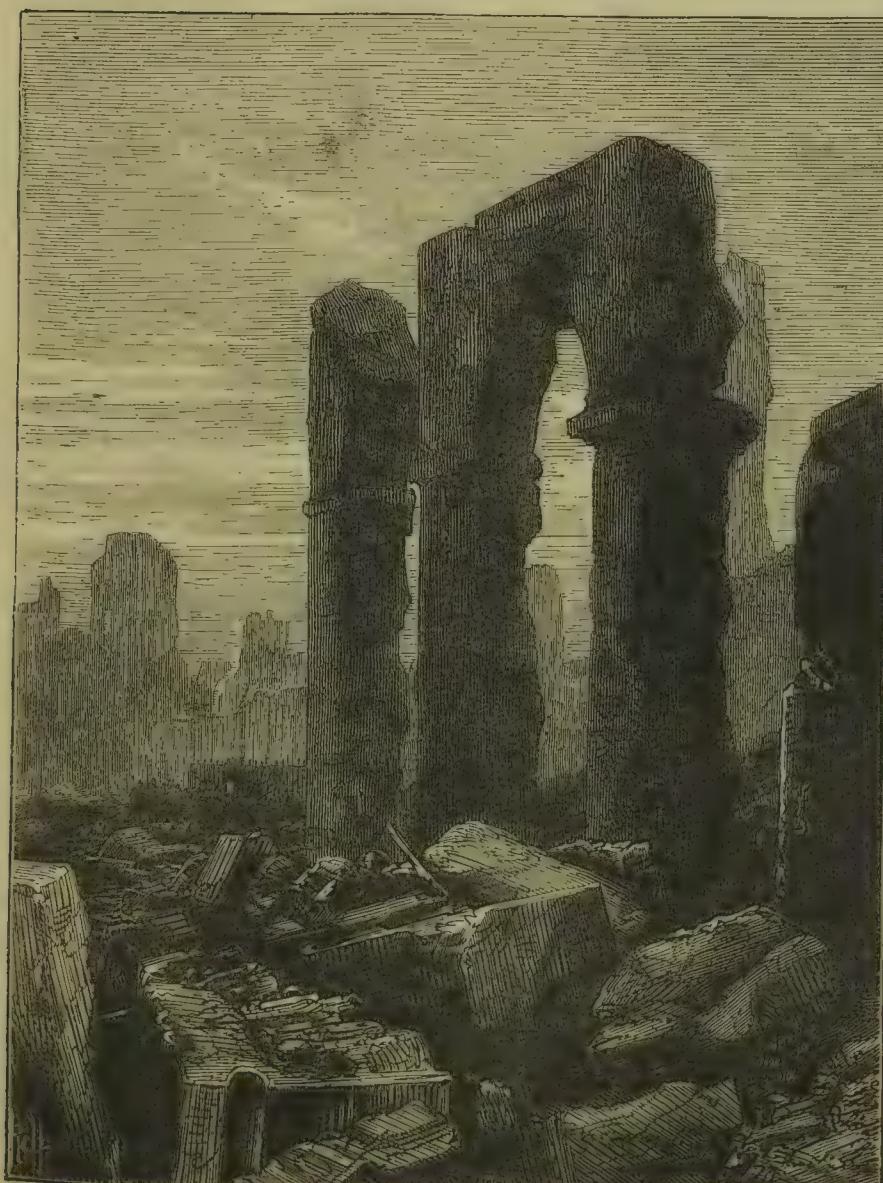
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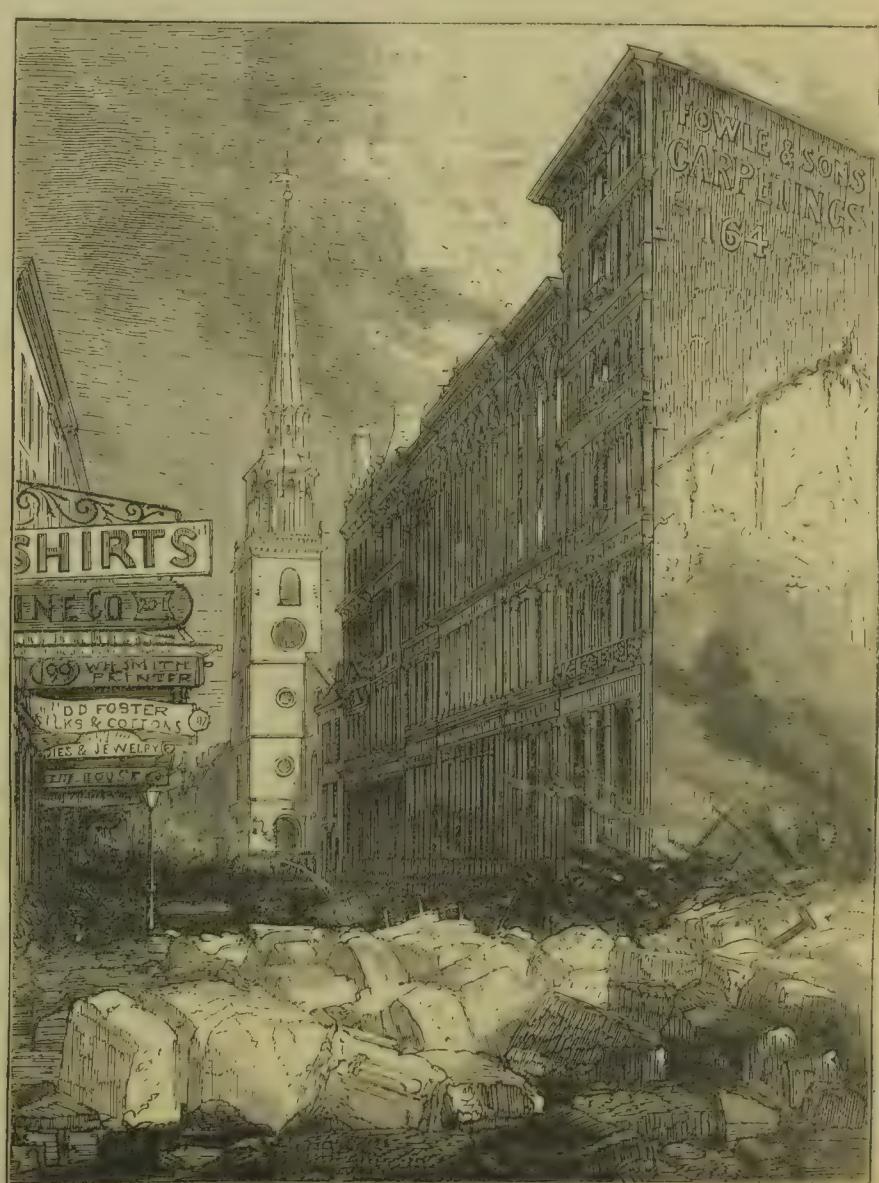
THE GREAT FIRE AT BOSTON.



WASHINGTON-STREET, OPPOSITE BROMFIELD-STREET.



MILK-STREET, LOOKING FROM WASHINGTON-STREET.



WASHINGTON-STREET, LOOKING TOWARDS THE OLD SOUTH CHURCH.

"NOTHING IN THE PAPERS."

Mr. Disraeli, of course, acts "in conformity with the properties," of which there is no better judge than the author of "Lothair," in declining to receive at Glasgow a deputation charged with political sentiments which it is desirous to explode in his presence. The new Lord Rector goes to Glasgow to be installed as the head of an intellectual association, whose members hold all sorts of polities, and therefore he gracefully lays all aside, and will talk of higher and more permanent things. It is not improbable that spiteful persons may find less worthy motives for his gentlemanly abstinence from debatable topics, and suggest that he who has nothing to say is a wise man to be silent. Without trespassing on the ground which the Lord Rector avoids, one could retort that he has ample means, just now, of saying a good many things, which might, like Charles Surface, give a good many worthy persons cause for uneasiness. Mr. Disraeli has been reading the newspapers, as other folk have been doing, ever since the recess; and between the accounts of the concluding banquet at Geneva, and the ringing of the joybells at Londonderry, both included, he may have found some texts on which to hang epigrams of the most incisive kind. As a reader and as a writer, one must be discontent with Mr. Disraeli's resolution, for a political speech from him would be—may I borrow a feminine epithet, and say—"awfully refreshing" after the oratory that has succeeded to Hansard. However, what the Lord Rector could say at Glasgow and what the Leader of Opposition will say elsewhere will not spoil by keeping. As is remarked in a MS. play, of which the only extant copy is in my possession,

His hand and hilt are friends of many days,
Severance is no estrangement.

It is something to know the worst, and we now know when the trial of the Knight of the Aliases for calling himself the Baronet of the Tichbournes is to begin. He is to be tried "at bar," and to be placed in the dock on the fifth day of next Easter Term. But Lady Macbeth's question, "And when goes hence?" is not to be answered lightly. One thing is probable—namely, that the indulgence which was not improperly shown by Chief Justice Bovill, in consideration of the singularity of the case and its admitted difficulties on both sides, will not be extended by the three Judges who are now to hear it, but that, in the words of the old poem, they will "stint the strife when wit and reason fail." The last sensational paragraph (and the Claimant has been very well served by his friends in that line of manufacture) is to the effect that Mr. Castro was getting into a railway carriage to go to Glasgow when he was apprised that Lady Doughty was extremely ill, and that he had better hasten to her if he desired to extract any further information from her. If the honourable reticence of the writers for the journals, who have avoided, all through the dull season, and despite the provocation afforded by such paragraphs as the above, making comment upon the proceedings of the Claimant and his friends, be not imitated, on the side of the latter, as the days of trial approach, there need be no clamour should impartial journalists quietly "take stock" of the case as it stands. No Judge would censure just reprisals.

I must beg leave to protest, with all such earnestness as is in me, against a most objectionable doctrine which has been propounded, and honestly acted up to, in the last number of the *Saturday Review*, a journal which, as a rule, I hold in high admiration. But the best of us are liable to err, and I believe that I have once or twice heard something in Latin about Homer. The review declines to pronounce judgment upon an important historical work, because no reviewer can as yet have had time to study it with the care demanded by justice! Now one is prepared for novelties in these days of *ex post facto* rules and the like, but the line must be drawn somewhere. Protest really must be made against such pedantry as that which is advocated by the *S. R.* Read a book and master it before describing and judging it! Such an idea fails to recommend itself to any rational person. The thing cannot be done, as a rule. I believe that novels are fairly, if hastily, read before they are criticised; but a novel is not hard reading, and, moreover, a critic's blunder in re-narrating a story is easily detected even by such an intellect as that of the habitual novel-devourer. Other books must take their chance, but it is not a hard one. Most are praised lavishly.

If it were not for seeming egotistic, I would supplement the above paragraph by a little story which is quite true. It shall be told in the third person. About a quarter of a century back, Mr. John Arthur Roebuck (whom I hope to see again in the House of Commons) published an important book containing the political history of times through which he had passed. Early copies were sent to the leading newspapers. By some accident the volumes, two large, handsome books, sent to a daily paper now no more (or I would not reveal secrets) arrived late in the evening, and the editor had special reason for wanting a full review next morning. It was eleven at night before the books reached the house of the able young man who was to review them; and, as the able young man was also sometimes frivolous, he had gone to the play, so that it was midnight before he received the editorial missive. But he was fighting for his belt then, so he did not pretend to be ill, or bribe the messenger to say that he had gone to Gravesend for the night, but he sat down to grapple with Mr. Roebuck's books, postponing all refreshment, except the use of indignant language—not aimed at that gentleman, of course. Messengers flew backwards and forwards until two in the morning, and by that time the able young man had cut the leaves of the two big volumes, written at steam speed, as he caught, or thought he caught, something like the meaning of each page as he rushed on, stuck in bits of Latin or quotation (not always utterly inapplicable), and, finally, had produced what made, in the following morning's issue, a column and a half, large type, of handsome reviewing. He was praised and thanked by his editor, and five-and-twenty years later had the pleasure of telling this story to the veteran politician whose work had been thus becomingly introduced to an enlightened public. Things are not done in that way now, and I am certain, at least, that the able young man never does his work in that fashion at present. By-the-way, after reviewing the book, he took an early opportunity of reading it, and found it most instructive and amusing, as it will be found by anyone who will now obtain it.

There was a very interesting account in the *Times* of the Oléron Communists. We have heard so much of the ill-treatment of these amiable personages that it is surprising, if not agreeable, to learn that they are rather better off than most prisoners in France, and that their greatest hardships are that they have to make their own beds, and the gaolers refuse to address any one of them as "Monsieur." These things may be very dreadful to the gentlemen of the pavement, but, on the whole, we English seem to have been deluded by exaggerated stories of the hardships inflicted on the Red prisoners. But we like to be deceived into sentimentality.

THE GREAT FIRE AT BOSTON.

The American newspapers of the 14th inst., now brought to us by the mail-steamer which arrived on Sunday, add little to the telegraphic accounts of the fire at Boston, on Saturday, the 9th, and Sunday, the 10th, which appeared in the London papers at the beginning of last week. In our last publication we gave a correct description of the fire, and several Illustrations of the city of Boston; a large Engraving, which showed the whole town and suburbs, with the harbour, in a Bird's-Eye View; a smaller view, from Tremont-street, on the south side; and views of Franklin-street, Winthrop-square, and State-street. We have now received photographs and sketches of the actual conflagration and its effects, which supply the materials for three of our present Illustrations. They show the ruins left near where the fire was at last stopped on the Monday morning, about the corner of Washington-street and Milk-street, in close vicinity to the Post Office and the Old South Church. This old church, which has fortunately been spared, is of some historical interest, having been founded 200 years ago; but the present building dates from 1730. During the Revolution, from 1771 to 1775, it was often used, like the old Faneuil Hall, for patriotic political meetings, and the State Legislature of Massachusetts, at the opening of its session, attends Divine worship in this church. A little way down Milk-street, at the corner of Devonshire-street, is the superb new Post Office, an immense pile not yet completed, which has also narrowly escaped destruction. School-street, on the opposite side of Washington-street, leads to another new grand public building, the City Hall, which was erected seven or eight years ago, costing half a million dollars. Between Bromfield-street and Winter-street, a short distance westward, are the Music-Hall, the Lowell Institute, and other places of well-known resort, with the Tremont Temple, the Museum, and the principal theatres, not far off, all which would have been destroyed if the fire had spread beyond Washington-street.

The *Boston Post* says:—"Looking over what there remains of Boston, one marvels that the fire did not go on for ever. A view of the housetops reveals a forest of mansard roofs, stretching up, angles and towers and cornices of seasoned wood, like so many hands rapacious to clutch the flames. Supported by wondrously-wrought pillar and capital and frieze of the same material, they sit at the top of lordly granite blocks like the Old Man of the Sea, to ride them to death. Once grasped, the fire will not leave the mansard roof for a deluge, but revels and riots there, and sends out fresh emissaries of destruction to its detestable kindred far and wide. An acre of pinewood goes to make the mansard roofs of one of our fine modern blocks, and a fine fire it makes. This is no fancy nor prejudice, and we rejoice to learn that the property-owners on what last week was High-street are taking measures to ensure the absence of this abomination in any of the structures to be erected on their land."

A Boston correspondent of the *New York Times* says:—"There is no better illustration of the material prosperity of this city than is exhibited in the manner in which the business men talk of their losses and of the future. I saw to-day one of the largest boot and shoe manufacturers in the country, and was told by him that to seven-eights of the men engaged in that trade the loss would be no greater than would result from a year or two of dull business. The stock was small, they were well insured, and in every case will recover at least 50 per cent on their policies. Indeed, the more business men consider the matter, the more cheerful they feel. Of course there is a loss, and a large one—stated now at 84,000,000 dols.—but it is very evenly distributed among a large number of insurance companies in this place, New York, Philadelphia, and Europe; and where it is personal it will fall upon men of large wealth, who are likely to feel it only in the curtailment it will make in sundry home and business expenses. Indeed, the affair is talked of by many people here in almost a boasting way; and I have heard several prominent gentlemen state that there was not a city in the United States that could experience such a loss with so little detriment to its prosperity."

The *New York Times*, in alluding to the resources of the fire dépôts of the different cities of the United States, says:—"It was formerly the fashion to assert that the volunteer fire department of America was infinitely superior to the united fire brigades of the Continent and England. Since the abolition of the volunteers as a nuisance that had become intolerable and the establishment of a really efficient fire brigade, the cities of the United States have a fashion of vanishing in flames while Paris refuses to burn, when urged to that fiery course by Communists, petroleum, and besieging bombs; and Florence, like its sister Italian cities, has not seen a really large fire within the memory at least of the present generation. It is conceded that the burning of Boston was not the result of an incapable fire department, and it is equally certain that the immunity from fire which Paris and Florence enjoy is not due to the efficiency of their feeble fire brigades. We must therefore decide that Chicago, Portland, and Boston failed to resist flames because they were built to a great extent of stone instead of brick. Had the Boston stores and warehouses been built with the thoroughness of an ordinary Florentine dwelling-house, they would have been standing to-day. If their granite walls had inclosed tiled rooms, carefully deadened with plaster, and the roofs constructed of anything but wood, Boston would have been as secure against fire as is Paris or Florence. When we build with the thoroughness of the European architecture, we shall render such calamities as those of Chicago and Boston impossible, and can afford to reduce our costly fire department to the insignificant and inexpensive dimensions of the very European fire brigades which American tourists have so often ridiculed."

The *New York Herald* says:—"Although Boston has not been under martial law, the good effects of martial law have been felt, and strict military discipline has prevailed in all the arrangements. The merchants who have been burned out are locating themselves temporarily in other parts of the city and proceeding with their business, and the property-owners only await the laying out of the contemplated new streets over the burned districts to commence the work of rebuilding. The condemned mansard roof receives no mercy from the press, and it is probable that the tasteful finish will be religiously discarded in all Boston buildings for the future. The insurance offices appear to be likely to weather the storm gallantly. Only two suspensions in this city are yet announced, and but few more failures are anticipated. The losses of the New York companies are not heavy, considering the amount of property destroyed—being only five millions in all. The foreign companies lose somewhat heavily; but they are rich and substantial, and can afford to stand the loss. A proposal to increase the insurance rate has been made as a means of relief to the companies; but this would be a step of doubtful expediency, and we do not believe it will be taken. Altogether, the severity of the shock of the great Boston conflagration may be said to have passed away, and the people are beginning to console themselves that the solid wealth and prosperity of the country has enabled them to meet it so well."

The Illustrations engraved for this Number are from photographs by Mr. J. W. Black, of Boston.

MUSIC.

THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

This Leviathan institution entered on its forty-first season last week, when "Judas Maccabæus" was given with all those vast resources, choral and orchestral, which have for many years been features special to the performances of this society.

Scarcely any event in this country has so forcibly illustrated the growth of musical taste among us as the rise and progress of the Sacred Harmonic Society from the smallest beginnings, among a limited amateur circle, to its present gigantic dimensions and prosperous power. Its removal (nearly forty years ago) from a small chapel near Lincoln's-inn-fields to Exeter Hall was the inauguration of that great career which it has hitherto pursued with such continuous success. Among other interesting events associated with the history of this society have been the engagements of both Spohr and Mendelssohn to conduct their own works at its concerts—the former having directed his "Fall of Babylon" there in 1843, and the latter his "St. Paul" in 1844, and "Elijah" but a few months before his death, in 1847.

In 1848 Sir Michael (then Mr.) Costa was appointed conductor and musical director, and from that date the importance of the society's performances and its financial success were enhanced beyond all precedent. The works of the elder composers, and in some instances those of the moderns, have been reinforced with additional accompaniments supplied by Sir M. Costa, so as to bring into use those varied and numerous constituents of an orchestra on the grandest scale—such as that retained by the society, which includes many of the best members of our opera bands. This force and the gigantic choir attached to the establishment make up a total of nearly 700 executants, the massive volume of tone produced by which realises an effect such as could scarcely have been contemplated as possible a century ago.

Important and interesting features associated with the success of the Sacred Harmonic Society are the establishment of a benevolent fund and the formation of an extensive and valuable library, under the able direction of Mr. W. H. Husk, whose musical and antiquarian knowledge is usefully displayed in the historical remarks prefixed to the books of words.

Most important has been the share taken by the Sacred Harmonic Society in the organisation and the performances of the triennial festivals at the Crystal Palace, directed by the society's conductor, whose exceptional power is there notably displayed in the swaying of the four thousand performers then assembled.

To return to the society itself—the reiterated performances of many of the finest oratorios of Handel, besides sacred works by other great masters—cannot but have had a powerful influence, in an upward direction, on English musical taste, and has unquestionably led to the formation of innumerable choral societies, public and private, by which much good of a like kind is effected.

During the recess great changes have been made in the constitution of the Sacred Harmonic choir; in more than one division of which, worn-out voices have been discarded and younger choristers substituted, with a result that was admirably conspicuous in the performance of "Judas Maccabæus," the magnificent choruses of which were given with a grand volume of tone, a truth of intonation, and a precision of execution such as have not been heard for many years at the society's concerts. Those pathetic lamentations, "Mourn, ye afflicted children," "For Sion lamentation make," and "Ah, wretched Israel!" only wanted a little more occasional modification of power to have been absolutely perfect. No want of any kind, however, was apparent in the movements "And grant a leader," "We come, we come," "Lead on," "Disdainful of danger," "Fallen is the foe," "Tune your harps," the grand song of triumph, "Sing unto God," &c. The splendid effect produced in these and other instances was a matter of as much surprise as pleasure to those who were previously unaware of the changed arrangements just referred to. The orchestral performance presented the same high merits that have long been conspicuous at these concerts. This feature was enhanced by the additional accompaniments supplied, some years ago, to the score of "Judas," by Sir M. Costa, expressly for the society's use. The principal soprano solos of the oratorio were sung by Madame Sinico with much effect—especially the airs, "From mighty Kings" and "Wise men flatt'ring." Other solos were assigned to Miss Banks, who was much applauded for her delivery of "Pious orgies," as was Miss Julia Elton, in the air, "Father of Heaven." The arduous tenor music—including those trying declamatory solos, "Call forth thy powers" and "Sound an alarm"—was given with great force by Mr. Vernon Rigby; Mr. Lewis Thomas having likewise distinguished himself by his capital delivery of "Arm, arm, ye brave," and "The Lord worketh wonders." Mr. Montem Smith rendered efficient aid in the duet "From this dread scene," with Madame Sinico; and in an incidental recitative. In the temporary absence of Mr. Coward, Mr. Willing presided at the organ with great efficiency. The performance generally was of exceptional merit, and was evidently so considered by the audience, which completely filled the large room of Exeter Hall, where the whole of this season's concerts will be given, as they used to be before last year's occasional removal to the Royal Albert Hall.

"St. Paul" is announced for Dec. 13, and the Christmas performances of "The Messiah" for the two following Fridays. As stated in a previous notice—Bach's St. Matthew Passion-Music is to be given during the season, for the first time by this society; and, among other revivals, that of Dr. Crotch's "Palestine" is spoken of.

A magnificent performance of Schumann's symphony in C was a prominent feature at last Saturday's Crystal Palace Concert—another specialty of high interest, although of less novelty, having been the greatest of all pianoforte concertos, that by Beethoven in E flat, now universally known as the "Emperor." The pianist on this occasion was Mr. Dannreuther, of whose highly-cultivated powers we have before spoken in reference to his performance, at these concerts, of Chopin's concertos, and that by Liszt in E flat. The other instrumental pieces in last Saturday's programme were Mr. H. Smart's bright and well-instrumented overture to his cantata "King Rene's Daughter" (given for the first time here), and Mendelssohn's concert-overture, entitled "Melusine." The vocalists were Madame Lanari (her first appearance) and Madame Patey. On the qualifications of the débuts it would seem harsh to pronounce a judgment based on her performances of Saturday, when nervousness or illness (or both) may possibly have prevented a more favourable display. Giordan's very Handelian air, "Caro mio ben," was so finely sung by Madame Patey that the enthusiastic applause which followed it was only to be silenced by a repetition of the piece. The other performance of this artist was Signor Randegger's graceful "Slumber Song."

After several disappointments, Madame Norman-Néruda has at length reappeared at this week's Monday Popular Concert, and at the previous Saturday afternoon's performance. On the earlier occasion the accomplished violinist played

Beethoven's romance in F (with pianoforte accompaniment), led the same composer's quartet, No. 5 (in A major), and was associated with Madame Arabella Goddard and Signor Piatti in Mendelssohn's trio in D minor. The pianoforte solo was Handel's "Suite" in E, including variations on "The Harmonious Blacksmith," which portion of the piece Madame Goddard had to repeat. Madame Sinico was the vocalist. On Monday evening the quartets in which Madame Néruda sustained the principal violin part were Schumann's in A minor and Haydn's in F (op. 17, No. 2). The pianist was again Madame Goddard (her solo Beethoven's sonata with the Funeral March), and the two ladies gave Mozart's sonata in D with such effect that the last movement had to be repeated. The vocal music consisted of the air "In native worth," from Haydn's "Creation," and Mendelssohn's lied "The Garland," which were successfully given by Mr. Castle. Sir Julius Benedict conducted on both the occasions referred to. Madame Néruda was warmly received in each instance.

A naval, military, and auxiliary forces club has been projected by Mr. Willett Beale, who originated the national music meetings at the Crystal Palace. The club—which is in course of formation, subject to the necessary permission of the authorities—is intended to promote the practice of vocal and instrumental music by members of the services. Weekly meetings are to be held, and monthly public performances given. In addition to the London establishment, it is contemplated to form branches in garrison towns.

THE THEATRES.

A new and original burlesque was produced on Monday at the Royal Court Theatre, written by Mr. Gilbert A'Beckett, and entitled "Charles II." The manifest intention of the author was to ridicule the manner in which Cromwell's character is misrepresented in Mr. Wills's drama of "Charles I." The spirit in which it was undertaken is indicated by the sub-title—"or, Something like History." Of course, we all understand by this that the writer's design is just to present his audience with the contrary. He therefore supposes that Cromwell visits Charles II. at Greenwich, as Mr. Wills has made him visit Charles I. at Whitehall, and that his great object is to provoke the King to bribe him with a five-pound note. The irony of this, we fear, is too fine for a common audience; but it is surrounded with circumstances and characters which ought to make the subject popular at a fashionable theatre and with an educated audience. The dialogue is well written, and contains much subtle satire; yet it falls short of the burlesque element. It is deficient in puns and parody. Nor is the action sufficiently like the original which it would caricature; the audience have therefore to seek for less obvious meanings in an outline arbitrarily invented, which is clever enough in itself, but not exactly what the playgoer probably expected. A song by Mdlle. Cornelie d'Anka was deservedly applauded.

ASTRONOMICAL OCCURRENCES IN DECEMBER.

(From the "Illustrated London Almanack.")

The MOON will be near to the planet Mercury on the morning of the 2nd, and to the planet Venus on the morning of the following day. Saturn and the Moon are in close proximity on the 3rd, as also are Uranus and the Moon on the morning of the 18th, the planet being to the left. Jupiter will be in the neighbourhood of the Moon on the morning of the 20th, the planet being to the left. Mars will precede her in her monthly course through the heavens on the morning of the 24th after 3h. 28m. a.m.; and the Moon will be near to Mercury on the evening of the 28th, and to Saturn during the early morning hours of the last day. Her phases or times of change are:—

First Quarter on the 7th at 36m. after 11h. in the morning.
Full Moon " 14th " 44 " 9 " evening.
Last Quarter " 23rd " 12 " 2 " morning.
New Moon " 30th " 36 " 6 " morning.

She is nearest to the Earth on the 3rd, at about noon, and again on the 31st, in the afternoon, and most distant on the afternoon of the 19th.

MERCURY is an evening star for the first half of the month, during the first few days of which he is visible for more than 1h. after sunset, but by the 17th the interval has decreased to 5m. only. On the 15th he rises about 2m. before sunrise, which interval increases to the largest amount for the year—viz., 1h. 52m. by the last day, when he rises at 6h. 16m. a.m. He is near to the Moon on the morning of the 2nd; stationary among the stars on the evening of the 6th; in his ascending node on the morning of the 10th; in perihelion on the evening of the 14th; in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the morning of the 16th; stationary among the stars on the evening of the 26th, for the second time during the month; and near to the Moon on the evening of the 28th, also for the second time.

VENUS is now visible for some time after sunset, and is well situated for observation. She sets on the 1st at 6h. 7m. p.m. or 2h. 5m. after sunset; on the 16th at 6h. 47m., or nearly 3h. after sunset; and on the 31st at 7h. 34m., or 3h. 35m. after the setting of the Sun. This is the most favourable month of the year for observing this planet as an evening star. She is near to the Moon during the morning hours of the 3rd, and in conjunction with Saturn shortly after midnight of the 4th.

From the month of May MARS has been a morning star, rising earlier and earlier every morning, until now, on the 1st of this month, he rises at 1h. 28m., or 6h. 17m. previous to sunrise. On the 15th he rises at 1h. 17m. a.m., and on the last day of the year at 1h. 2m. a.m. He is in aphelion on the morning of the 8th, and in conjunction with the Moon on the morning of the 24th, the time of nearest approach being 3h. 28m.

JUPITER is a conspicuous object in the heavens from two or three hours before midnight till sunrise the following morning. The following are the times of rising of this planet on every fifth day throughout the month. On the 1st at 10h. 26m. p.m.; on the 6th at 10h. 9m.; on the 11th at 9h. 49m.; on the 16th at 9h. 30m.; on the 21st at 9h. 10m.; on the 26th at 8h. 49m.; and on the 31st at 8h. 29m. p.m. He will be stationary among the stars on the evening of the 17th, and near to the Moon on the morning of the 20th.

The interval between the setting of the Sun and SATURN decreases from 2h. 48m. on the 1st, when he sets at 6h. 40m. p.m., to 1h. 58m. by the 16th (setting at 5h. 49m. p.m.), and to 1h. by the 31st, when he sets at 4h. 59m. p.m. He will be situated to the right of the Moon during the afternoon hours of the 3rd; in his descending node on the evening of the 10th; and near to the Moon, for the second time during this month, on the morning of the last day.

The bodies of the victims of the Pelsall disaster have been found. They had rushed from the shaft in the direction of the out-crop, when the pit was inundated; and there, pressing close together in the narrow passage, had perished through the choke-damp.

THE SWEDISH EXPEDITION TO SPITZBERGEN.

It has been mentioned that great fears were entertained about the safety of the Swedish expedition, sent out under the command of Professor Nordenskjöld, with the intention of wintering in the Parry Islands, north of Spitzbergen, and thence reaching the Pole by means of reindeer sledges over the ice. As stated by Sir Henry Rawlinson at the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, on Monday, Nov. 11, the three vessels composing the expedition (the steamers Polhem and Onkel Adam, with the sailing-vessel Gladan, the first two commanded by naval officers) had reached Green Harbour, on the west coast of Spitzbergen, on Aug. 4. At the end of that month the expedition was in the latitude of the Norwegian Islands, north from Spitzbergen; and, as the road to the north-eastern island was barred by the ice, the leaders resolved to pass by the still open Hinlopen Sound to Lomme Bay. On Sept. 1 the expedition started, and on the same day the Polhem, with the Gladan in tow, was seen to pass Verlegenhuuk, marking the entrance to Hinlopen Sound, the Onkel Adam following two days later. But since then nothing whatever has been heard of them. The Polhem only was to winter in Parry Islands, being alone provided for the stay; the two other vessels were to return as soon as they had escorted their comrade to her anchoring-ground and unloaded their cargo at her wintering place. At the end of October the head magistrate at Tromsö telegraphed to the Norwegian Government that, as nothing had been heard of the two tenders, it was feared both they and a fleet of six Norwegian sealers were stopped somewhere by the ice; and that they had not sufficient provisions in store to keep them over the winter. It is true that large dépôts of victuals have been stored up on certain points of the desert coast, and if the men could reach them they would be provided for until next spring or summer, when the ice breaks up again; but it was not to be assumed that the road would be open from the vessels to these refuges and reserved stores. The Norwegian Government resolved, therefore, immediately to send out an Arctic steamer to seek for the lost vessels and take them assistance. The Government hastened to charter the Albert at Tonsberg, which had just returned from a whaling expedition. When the news of the danger menacing the Swedish Arctic explorers reached Copenhagen, two leading commercial men there, Mr. Tietgen, director of the private bank, and Mr. Suhr, head of the firm of J. P. Suhr and Son, placed the steamer Fox, equipped and manned at their own expense, at the immediate and gratuitous service of the Norwegian Government. The Fox is a steamer which belonged at one time to the expedition sent out to seek for Sir John Franklin. She was then commanded by Sir Leopold M'Clintock, carrying on the main-top the motto of Lady Franklin, "Hold Fast," which is as good Danish as it is English. Since then, the Fox has been employed in the service of the company working the rich mines in Greenland; she has recently received new engines, and had just returned from a voyage, so that she lay ready to start at the shortest notice. The generous offer of her two owners came, however, a little too late; the Albert had already been chartered, and was in preparation for sailing immediately; so the Norwegian President of the Council telegraphed back his and the Government's warmest thanks for the sacrifice the owners had declared themselves willing to make, but declined to accept it. The Albert, Commander Otto, of the Norwegian navy, left on Nov. 10, accompanied by the best hopes of all; but expectations of success are not sanguine. It is feared that the steamer will be unable to penetrate through the ice accumulated at this time of the year. Even if it should be able to do so, there is no certainty that Professor Nordenskjöld's Swedish Expedition and the Norwegian sealers have found refuge in the same place. Either party will scarcely have provisions enough to last them till March or April, and will in that case be left to all the horrors of starving and freezing to death in the ice. Under these circumstances the result of the relief expedition are looked forward to with feelings of anxious suspense.

We are much obliged to Captain J. C. Wells, R.N., who has furnished a sketch of the Samson schooner parting from the Swedish North Polar Expedition in Green Harbour, on the west coast of Spitzbergen. The Samson was at that time on her homeward voyage from the far north, where she had been sounding at great depths for temperatures. The season appeared too much advanced for a party going north, and Captain Wells is of opinion that the ships were not suited for the work. He adds the following details, in a published letter:—

"These whaling ships, which sail out of the northern ports of Norway every year in pursuit of animals for the sake of their oil, are built of native fir-wood, and sometimes have the additional advantage of a thin coating of sheet iron to enable them to contend with the ice, against which it is but a poor protection. The ships are frail, and ill adapted to resist any great pressure from the ice; they are constructed to carry about fifty tons of cargo, and have a crew of from twelve to seventeen men; they carry a foremast with a small square sail, used to back their ship off the ice, and a mizenmast and sail. Such vessels never attempt to sail to the east of 'North-East Land,' situated, as that island is, to the east of Spitzbergen; but content themselves with the comparatively easy navigation of the south, west, and north shores, where there is little or no danger of being crushed by the ice. When we were closely beset, this year, with a heavy gale blowing for six days from the southwards, we never suffered from the pressure in the slightest degree, though we were closely packed and about forty miles from the land. Should these vessels, therefore, be free from the rocks of the coast line, their safety need not be feared. It is a common thing for the whalers who leave Petřhead in the spring of the year to be beset and frozen in the ice. When this happens, there is nothing for it but to wait patiently; and they drift with the ice, carried by a current which trends towards Iceland, when they escape on the breaking up of the ice. The Norwegians, going later in the year, follow their fishing avocations among the ice, and gain by long experience sufficient local knowledge to guide them in emergencies. The steamers carry little coal, the fittings are of the oldest patterns, and no attempt has been made to introduce any modern appliances for the saving of fuel or the increase of locomotive power. They are of about 40-horse power. The want of room on board for stowage necessitates the attendance of a sailing ship laden with fuel for the voyage, and it is such a ship as this that the Swedish Government has selected for the relief of the missing expedition and the other destitute wayfarers we met with in our journey. It is true the Polhem has twenty months' provisions for twenty-three men; but with the crews of her two consorts and six fishing-vessels entirely wanting in the common necessities of life, the strain upon her resources for the sustentation of 160 hungry men will, on half allowance, barely last for the winter. I am in hopes, nevertheless, that the warm current of water we observed by sounding at great depths may, during the winter months, disperse the ice, and that the open water observed in the month of May by Scoresby, to the north of Spitzbergen,

may have been caused by this action of heat, assisted as it doubtless is by the force of the prevailing winds at that season of the year. Should this be the case, it will open up a curious question hitherto in abeyance for want of actual investigation; and now that the influence of the Gulf Stream is beginning to be shorn of some of its long supposed proportions, it is possible more attention will be paid to the subject."

THE SCOTT MONUMENT AT NEW YORK.

It may be remembered that about the time of the centenary festival in Scotland, which was held on Sir Walter Scott's birthday, in August of last year, the Scotchmen in New York resolved to have a monument of their illustrious countryman put up in the Central Park there. They ordered a duplicate of the well-known colossal statue, by Mr. John Steell, R.S.A., which has long occupied a shrine of glory under the majestic architectural edifice of the Scott Monument in Prince's-street Gardens, Edinburgh. The design of this noble work of art must be familiar to our readers, since we gave an illustration of it when the Edinburgh Scott Centenary Festival took place. It represents the great historical poet and romance-writer, the modern Homer of North Britain, seated on a rock; a plaid is loosely wrapped about his shoulders; a book is upon his left knee, with both hands resting on it; there is a pen in his right hand; one of his favourite dogs is couched beside him. The commission for a duplicate work, of the same size, having been given to Mr. Steell, was duly executed in the course of less than a twelvemonth, and in September last the marble statue—or, rather, group—was sent to America by one of the Anchor line of steamers; the owners of that line, Messrs. Henderson Brothers, granting it a passage free of cost. The arrangements for the work and shipment were made under the personal superintendence of Mr. D. Duncan, of the Crown Office, Edinburgh. The site chosen is in the Mall of the Central Park, on the right-hand side going towards the Terrace, and not far from the statue of Shakespeare. The pedestal, designed also under the direction of Mr. Steell, is of red granite, by Messrs. Macdonald, Field, and Co., of Aberdeen. In front it bears the name, "Walter Scott;" behind is a record declaring that the statue is a gift from the Scottish residents in New York, and their sons, to the city of New York, on the hundredth anniversary of his birth. Among the earliest and most active promoters of this memorial were Mr. Richard Irvin, Mr. Robert Mackie, Mr. Robert Gordon, and the leading members of the St. Andrew's Society and Caledonian Club at New York. The ceremony of presenting and unveiling the statue, which is shown in our illustration, took place on the 2nd inst. It was ushered in by a procession, of which the band of the 79th Highlanders, under Captain Laing, formed part. Mr. R. Irvin delivered the presentation address, and Mr. William Wood unveiled the statue. It was accepted, with a suitable speech in reply, by the Hon. Andrew Green, Superintendent of the Public Parks. An interesting address was then delivered by Mr. William Cullen Bryant, the accomplished scholar and gifted poet, who is editor of a New York daily paper. The band played several pieces of music, including "God Save the Queen," "Hail, Columbia!" and the Scottish national airs. There was a dinner in the evening at Delmonico's famous tavern.

CALLS TO THE BAR.

AT LINCOLN'S INN.

Abraham, Thos. P., LL.B., Cambridge.
Banbury, Frederick Robert Frith.
Binker, Walter H., B.A., Cambridge.
Bonser, John W., B.A., Cambridge.
Chandler, Allen, jun.
Dawson, Stewart.
Dawson, Emerson, LL.B., Dublin.
De Morgan, J. A., B.A., Cambridge.
Deshmukh, Krishnarao Gopal, B.A.
Duncan, C. A., LL.B., Cambridge.
Durand, Henry Martiner.
Langford, William T., B.A., Oxford.
Lawrence, Hon. J. H., B.A., Camb.
Lipscomb, W. H., jun., B.A., Oxford.
Lloyd, James E., B.A., Cambridge.
Nash, Thomas, M.A., Oxford.
Nugent, E. H. S., B.A., Cambridge.
Pandit Soorjali Munphool.
Reid, John Maitland, M.A., Oxford.
Serrell, G., M.A., London University.
Terrell, Arthur & Beckett.
Van Sonnen, Godlieb Geo. Bennett.
Walstro, F. Anthony M.A., Oxford.

AT THE INNER TEMPLE.

Allen, Jefferys C., B.A., Cambridge.
Bateman, Alfred Edmund.
Bowen-Graves, F. R. S., B.A., Camb.
Brooks, William James, M.A., Oxford.
Buesnel, Clement.
Carey, F. G., LL.B., Lond. University.
Cole, Richard Henry.
Cuffe, Hon. H. J. A., B.A., Cambridge.
Fairfield, Edward Denny.
Field, Jonathan, B.A., Cambridge.
Finlay, Kirkman.
Grosvenor, the Hon. R. C., Oxford.
Hamilton, William Alexander Baillie.
Hollams, Fred. William, B.A., Oxford.

Hume, Robert Montagu.
Hunt, Francis H., B.A., Cambridge.
Ingram, William J., B.A., Cambridge.
Irvine, Pearson Robert, Cambridge.
Jackson, C. W. L., B.A., Cambridge.
Kennett, V. H. B., M.A., Cambridge.
Kershaw, Louis Addin, B.A., Oxford.
Lindsell, Henry Martin, B.A., Oxford.
Locke, John Henry, B.A., Cambridge.
Matthews, Jno. Leonard, B.A., Oxford.
Murphy, Francis H., B.A., London.
Pollock, Edward James.
Raikes, Francis W., B.A., Cambridge.
Ricketts, William Bennett.
Scratchley, Philip A., B.A., Oxford.
Smealman-Smith, J. B., A.B.A., Cambridge.
Smith, Vernon R., B.A., Cambridge.
Stirling, J. L., B.A., Cambridge.
Templer, F. Gordon, B.A., Cambridge.
Venables, Rowland G., B.A., Oxford.
Williams, T. Ellis, B.A., Cambridge.

AT THE MIDDLE TEMPLE.

Andrews, Robert W., B.A., Dublin.
Armstrong, Frederick Jennings.
Barker, Frederick.
Chapman, J. John, M.A., Cambridge.
Dunn, Joseph Hunt.
Hammersley, Alfred St. George.
Kapadid, Ardesheer Byramjee.
Piguerig, Jean Alexis Jules.
Poole, Arthur Daniel, B.A., Dublin.
Radcliffe, R. Duncan, M.A., Oxford.
Ricci, James Herman de.
Shaw, Patrick Dunlop.
Whinfield, E. Henry, B.A., Oxford.
Winch, Henry.

AT GRAY'S INN.

Smith, Gustavus Adolphus.

The Hon. C. Carnegie, late M.P. for Forfarshire, is gazetted Inspector of the Scottish Constabulary.

Mr. Hill, now Second Commissioner of Charitable Trusts, will succeed to the chief commissionership, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Erle, who will be made a Privy Councillor.

Mr. T. P. Addison has been appointed by her Majesty to the virtually honorary office of constable of Lancaster Castle. The salary of the office is said to be the same now as it was in the reign of Edward III—twenty marks per annum.

The whole of the nomination-papers handed in for the municipal elections at Cork have been declared by the Irish Solicitor-General to be invalid. The old forms were used, no notice having been taken of the provisions of the Ballot Act.

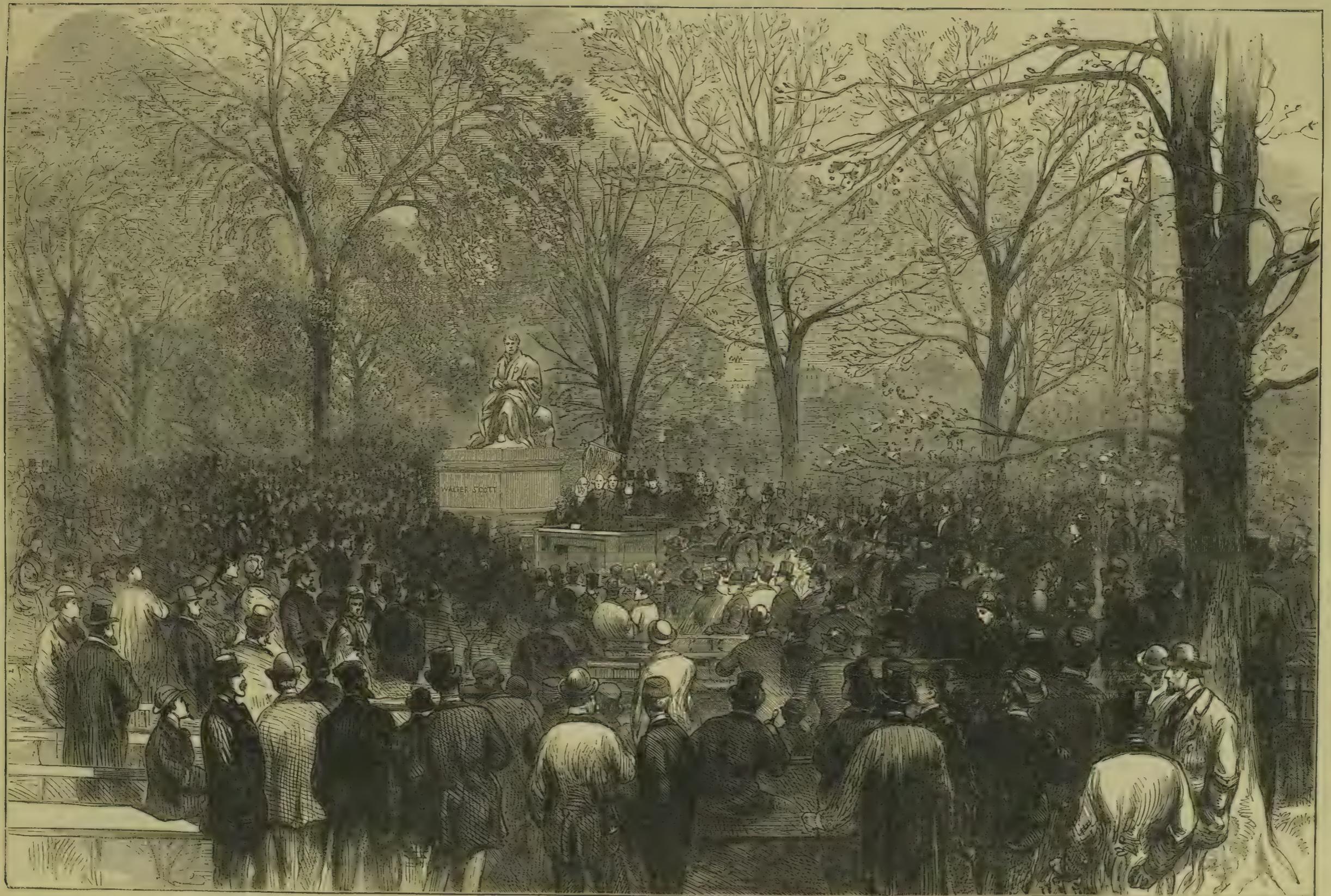
Three hundred farm labourers from Dorset and adjacent counties have sailed from Liverpool this week for Brazil, £400 having been advanced by the Government of that country for the free settlement of the men in Cananea Colony.

The polling for Londonderry (the first which has taken place in Ireland under the Ballot Act) resulted, on Saturday last, in the return of Mr. Charles Edward Lewis, the Conservative candidate, who mustered 696 votes; the Attorney-General for Ireland receiving 522; Mr. Biggar, Home Ruler, 89; and Mr. M'Corkell, who had retired from the contest on the previous evening, 2.

A meeting was held at Reading last Saturday, under the presidency of Lord Abingdon, the Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, to promote the formation of a county friendly society, the main object of which would be to promote habits of thrift among the labouring population, and enable them to make provision for sickness and old age. The Bishop of Oxford, Mr. C. Cherry, Mr. Walter, M.P., Sir Charles Russell, Bart., Mr. Benyon, M.P., and Colonel Lindsay, M.P., took part in it, and a committee was formed to carry out the scheme.



THE SWEDISH EXPLORING EXPEDITION AT GREEN HARBOUR SPITZBERGEN.



UNVEILING THE STATUE OF SIR WALTER SCOTT IN CENTRAL PARK, NEW YORK.

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

Often during the course of the Session there may be observed sitting in the gallery of the House, just above the Treasury bench, a young-looking member who in a very abstract way suggests recollections of the Peri who at Heaven's gate sate disconsolate. It seems as if he were hovering over the charmed bench on which Ministers uneasily repose, ready at the slightest call to flutter down upon it; and there are some who wonder that, in the changes and chances of the present Parliament, he has not received that call. In truth, Mr. Charles Parker has gone through all the stages which usually lead to Lordships of the Treasury and Under-Secretaryships. A distinguished career at Eton and Oxford was followed by an appointment as a Public Examiner; he was a Special Commissioner under the Public Schools Act; he was private secretary to Mr. Cardwell when that gentleman was Colonial Secretary; and, above all, he won Perthshire at the last general election from strong Tory hands for the Liberal party. Wherever he has spoken he has shown that he has been thinking about his subject, which is not always to be noted in Parliamentary talkers of the lower or lower middle calibre; and the only objection to him appears to be that his voice is peculiar. This cannot be the sole reason why this gentleman, who to all outward seeming is of the very stuff out of which precise officials are manufactured, should still be unattached. He has been called to memory by the circumstance that he has been, so to speak, going circuit in Perthshire, and apparently showing cause to his constituents that they were wise and judicious in choosing him as their representative, and doubtless endeavouring to convince them that if he has not yet received the best appreciation which a public man can aspire to it is owing to that judicial blindness to modest merit which Prime Ministers sometimes exhibit.

A regular course of elector-visiting which has been going on in a particular instance suggests that a new member is training himself for an attempt at prominence in the coming Session. It was late in July that Mr. Stanhope was elected for the South-West Riding of Yorkshire, and consequently he had not time before the prorogation even to become accustomed to the atmosphere of the House, in all the senses of that word; he seemed, in truth, to be timidly, and with a half-frightened air, to be looking about for a seat into which he could settle without disturbing any of the prescriptive vested rights to particular places, which he probably knew to exist, and he seemed rather lonely; but in his district it is evident that he is a personage. He has been unsparing of public appearances, and he can speak long and boldly, and with almost good Tory unction. Unless all his valour should ooze away under the trying influence of the House, he may be expected to make some attempts next year in the denunciation line, and so become, intentionally or unconsciously, as the case may be, a follower of Mr. Bentinck the greater.

When Bristol was holding what may be called its annual political saturnalia, a short while ago, the presence of more than one Minister of the Crown at the festivities tended a good deal to put the members for the city into the shade. But due compensation was made to them, and they had a special "innings," on the very ground on which the nominally greater players figured the day before. The opportunity was wonderfully made use of, and speeches were made of a length which may be described as portentous. Generally, though decided and even incisive in his deliveries, Mr. Morley is not a maker of long speeches anywhere, and, specially in the House, he does nothing in the oratorical way; but on this occasion he, as it were, unfolded himself to an immense extent, and, if the insinuation may be pardoned, was not, perhaps, so effective as usual, when he is less lengthy. As to Mr. Kirkman Hodgson, his ability is very well accepted as a fact, though he makes little or no overt effort to exhibit it in the House; and it is not very accurately remembered whether he has before now come out so broadly and vigorously to his constituents as he did in his recent speech. It was a remarkable compound of good-sense, breadth of view, and a certain geniality which consorts well with the good-humoured jollity of the hon. gentleman's appearance, which is, perhaps, duly typical of an English merchant prince.

No opportunity is lost by Lord Henry Lennox to renew his sharp, shrill criticism on Admiralty administration. Somehow it seems as if Mr. Goschen, as First Lord, acts upon Lord Henry as an irritant more strongly than even Mr. Childers did; and that is saying a great deal. The electors of Chichester have been affording his Lordship another chance of liberating his mind, and he fell on Mr. Goschen's speech at Bristol with a certain literalness, tooth and nail. He seemed to take it up in bits and tear it and maul it with a touch almost of venom. Certainly, he was as shrewish as could be in his language; while, as to his assertions, they were broad, deep, and strong, whether they related to the miserable shortcomings and inexactness of statements of the existing head of the Admiralty, or referred to that grand national naval policy under which the board to which Lord Henry belonged acted. The obvious deduction from all that he said is, that the time will come when the nation with one voice will cry out, "Oh for an hour of Sir John Pakington or Mr. Corry!"

There was a period when the day of a gathering of any kind at Romsey was to be marked deeply with a metaphorical white stone. For Lord Palmerston was as special and as alluring when he formed the centre of a more or less rustic assemblage as he was when he was turning the House of Commons round his fingers, or exchanging banter with a bumptious butcher from the hustings at Tiverton. At Romsey he was emphatically at home; and in his addresses and his demeanour, his mode of mingling with those whom he had gone out to meet, there was a charm which was universally felt, but was indescribable. His very dress was an adaptation to country ideas of costume, and his outward appearance was that of a gentleman of Hampshire, and in decidedly strong contrast to the trim and exact dress of a man of fashion, which he always preserved when in London. Of course, Mr. Cowper-Temple, who has succeeded him in the proprietorship of that demesne, which abuts on Romsey, does not hope to fill the place which Lord Palmerston has left vacant there. But the right hon. gentleman has been so palpably a student of Lord Palmerston's specialties, was for so long so closely connected with him, that unconsciously, and by some curious insensible process, he has acquired a sort of faint likeness of the noble Lord in some ways. Doubtless, he with intent imitates his predecessor as far as possible in that genial kindness which was so appreciated at Romsey, and in a late address made by Mr. Cowper-Temple to the labouring body of that district there are traces of even such an effort.

A large number of the friends of the Lord Justice Clerk (Sir James Moncreiff) met in the Sheriff Court-Room, Edinburgh, last Saturday, and presented to Lady Moncreiff a portrait of her husband, painted by Mr. D. Macnee. Lord Benholme presided. Lord Deas made the presentation, in an eloquent and tasteful address; and Lords Neaves and Ardmillan, Mr. Millar, Q.C., and the Solicitor-General took part in the proceedings.

NEW BOOKS.

A subject, the beauty of which is from the very nature of the case more apparent to the full man than to the fasting, to Dives than to Lazarus, to the successful labourer in no matter what field than to the man "out of work," is handled with the magical skill of a professed "populariser" in the *Handbook of Social Economy; or, the Worker's A B C*, by Edmund About (Strahan and Co.). The volume is said to have been "translated from the last French edition;" and the translator, who, we gather from the "introduction," is Mr. W. F. Rae, appears to have performed a labour of love, and to have performed it exceedingly well. The author, according to his translator, "could make Euclid as interesting as the most fascinating novel, and the multiplication-table as amusing as a fairy tale;" and, that being so, it is not wonderful that the magician, though he has brought forward few, if any, new facts, and has advanced few, if any, new theories, should by sheer novelty of style have relieved the tediousness of an old story and given an appearance of brightness to a dull theme. The volume is divided into twelve chapters. In the first chapter the author discourses of "man's wants," and points out how "the earthly pilgrimage is a journey after the unattainable, in which there is neither halting nor repose." In the second, of "useful things," and ends with the reflection that "you are of the greater use to yourself the more you are instructed," &c., and that "the development of your personal faculties also enables you to be more useful to others, and to obtain from them greater services through reciprocity." In the third, of "production," and requests us to "be modest, and declare in good faith that man's greatest efforts only end in producing an abstraction, utility." In the fourth, of "parasites," whom he divides into three classes, "robbers, beggars, and professional gamblers." In the fifth, of "exchange," and introduces the questions connected therewith by stating that, "if the first economic law be the obligation to produce, the second is the necessity of exchanging." In the sixth, of "liberty," and concludes by addressing the potentates of the earth in the words, "Princes, open the gates, and progress will make the round of the world." In the seventh, of "money," and is led to affirm that, "by adopting at last a single standard, we shall get rid of the only objection which the metric system has encountered in its course," and that "the French idea is destined to conquer the civilised world, and this victory will be worth any other, though it shall not have cost a drop of blood." In the eighth, of "wages," and ends with a saying, which will appear hard to those who have toiled all day and all night and taken nothing, to the effect that "all of us are paid and pay wages, for civilised life is a perpetual exchange of services." In the ninth, of "savings and capital," and in the course of it deals shortly and sharply with those "crooked spirits" that "pay court to working men by affirming that chance and violence have created and distributed capital." In the tenth, of "strikes," and takes occasion to pay the "principal leaders of the working men" the compliment of admitting that they "are eminent strategists." In the eleventh, of "co-operation;" and in the twelfth, of "assurance and some other desirable novelties," commencing with the inevitable but unsatisfactory confession that "the problem of poverty," if not absolutely insoluble, "will be long and difficult of solution." Perhaps the translator would not take ill a respectful suggestion touching the translation of terms relating to French liquid or dry measures, &c. It is, of course, impossible to give, unless in some unwieldy form, the exact English equivalent, and therefore it is usually well, if not best, to leave them in the French form; but, when there comes an argument or illustration involving the use of proportions, it might be advisable, for the sake of those who are unacquainted with the French measures, to use such approximate English measures as are familiar to the English reader and render the proportions comprehensible at a glance.

It is well worth while to bestow the short time required for a perusal of *The Foreigner in Far Cathay*, by W. H. Medhurst, H.B.M. Consul, Shanghai; with map (Edward Stanford). There are here neither the voluminous sensationalism of the cursory visitor nor the bulkily-recorded impressions, frequently arising from hearsay, of the observant, indeed, but inexperienced, traveller, to whom, perhaps, the language is an insurmountable obstacle; there are, on the other hand, the briefly but plainly stated experience and opinions of a gentleman who, from position, residence, intercourse, and, it would seem, intimate knowledge of the language, is, or at any rate ought to be, a very weighty authority. The author says "it is marvellous how vague, and in some cases how erroneous, are the popular notions prevalent in Europe and America in regard to the country and our relations with it;" and he proceeds, in a blunt but unpretentious and interesting manner, to set us right. Nevertheless, for all his whitewashing, one would say that travellers' tales have certainly some foundation in fact, that they are merely instances of hyperbolical representation, and that though the "heathen Chinee" of simple, innocent, ingenuous memory, may not be a fair sample of Chinamen generally, "the Chinese have not, it is true, that delicate perception of what the claims of truth and good faith demand which is so highly esteemed amongst us Westerners." It is wrong to suppose in respect of the Chinese "that their food consists of dogs, cats, rats, and other garbage;" but the author cannot assert "that dogs and cats are never eaten," and he even goes so far as to tell us that, though puppy-pie may not be the national dish, "there are actually restaurants in Canton especially devoted to the preparation of canine dishes;" from which it may be fairly concluded that dogs' flesh, as an article of human food, is always more in vogue in China than it ever is in Europe, save under peculiar circumstances, such as the siege of Paris. Of infanticide, again, the author speaks in such a way as to prohibit us from believing that it is an institution of the country; but, at the same time, he acknowledges "that there are towns and districts where infanticide is practised, in some to an infamous extent, in others to a less degree." And so forth, as regards other matters. A reader would be inclined to say, then, that the stories propagated by the ordinary traveller about China are similar to those which would be, with less excuse, propagated as to England by Chinese travellers, who, generalising from exceptional cases, should, and most likely would, and not improbably do, ascribe to us certain national peculiarities on no better grounds than the information picked up about our Overends and Gurneys, our Roupells, our Divorce Court, our Boultons and Parkes, our baby-farming, and our use of the "cat" for the benefit of a special class of offenders. No doubt the devil is not quite so bad as he is painted: China is not in all parts and altogether a hell upon earth.

The "International Scientific Series" of popular treatises, embodying the results of the latest investigations in various departments of physical and physiological knowledge, with explanations based on simple elementary principles, will be published by Messrs. Henry S. King and Co. It begins with a treatise, by Professor Tyndall, on *The Forms of Water, in Clouds and Rivers, Ice and Glaciers*, which seems perfectly

well adapted for a text-book of scientific study. The author contrives, with his usual tact and skill, to introduce many striking anecdotes and brief descriptive sketches from his frequent Alpine excursions, which he has related more at length in some other books. At the same time, he keeps the attention of his readers firmly bound to a strict method of experimental observation and induction, tolerating no vagueness of conception or assumption. The treatise is regularly divided into sixty-seven sections, containing altogether nearly five hundred numbered paragraphs. Among the earliest volumes of this instructive series will be those on "The Principles of Mental Physiology," by Dr. W. B. Carpenter; "Bodily Motion and Consciousness," by Professor Huxley; "Food and Diets," by Dr. Edward Smith; and "Earth Sculptures," a geological treatise, by Professor Ramsay. We observe, in the further list, promised contributions by Professor Virchow, of Berlin, on "Morbid Physiological Action;" Professor Balfour Stewart, on "The Conservation of Energy;" Dr. Charlton Bastian, on "The Brain as an Organ of Mind;" Professor Michael Foster, on "Protoplasm and the Cell Theory;" Sir John Lubbock, Professor Alexander Bain, Mr. Herbert Spencer, Mr. J. N. Lockyer, Dr. Maudsley, Dr. Odling, Professor Stanley Jevons, and several eminent men of science in Germany, France, and America, each dealing with a subject which he is known to have mastered. The quiet and thoughtful perusal of any of these little text-books, accompanied with such personal observations and experiments as may be found accessible to the private student, will teach far more than can be learned from public lectures or magazine articles. At any rate, the patient and diligent reader of such books as Professor Tyndall's will be taught to separate exactly what he does know of the subject from what he does not. This is the first condition of all true knowledge.

The pleasant and graceful humour of Mr. William Black, which delighted us all in "A Daughter of Heth," is freely indulged in his new story, *The Strange Adventures of a Phaeton* (two volumes, Macmillan and Co.). This title is, perhaps, not so well calculated to pique our curiosity, as to provoke a suspicion of something grotesque and quaint in fantastic invention which might not prove acceptable to modern taste. One would expect the phaeton to be relating its own adventures, and, incidentally, those of some people who rode in it; as various inanimate objects, associated by personal or household use with the fortunes of human owners, were supposed to do in the elaborate fictions of a school that has passed away. But we are glad to assure the reader that Mr. Black has refrained from trying any such frigid and tedious device; the story is told, from day to day, by the gentleman who owns the phaeton, with occasional notes by his wife, nicknamed "Queen Titania," or "Tita," correcting the masculine notions of what she thinks due to her own sex. Her sister Bell, a fresh-hearted and intelligent young lady from the country, is living with the married pair, in a suburb of London; and they are joined by another visitor, Count Oswald von Rosen, a Prussian Lieutenant of Uhlans, who is in England on furlough at the close of the late war. It is agreed that the whole family party shall treat itself to a prolonged summer holiday excursion, in the form of a leisurely journey from London to Edinburgh, by a rather devious road, in the comfortable vehicle, with a pair of strong and steady horses, which gives its name to the story. They can all drive, Mrs. Tita and Miss Bell as expertly as the master and the Prussian officer; but Von Rosen, a fine example of the robust, highly-trained, efficient manhood of North German aristocracy, can also take care of the horses in the stable, as well as play the pianoforte, sing and talk with equal good sense, vivacity and modesty; he can do all that a young gentleman should, but not flirt or flatter, to make himself agreeable to the ladies. We have probably said enough to show the means by which the novelist has contrived, in this instance, to draw upon that unfailing source of interest, the tender and delicate upgrowth of a pure mutual affection between a man and woman, of thoroughly congenial nature, and worthy of each other, who are brought into daily companionship, under the kind and watchful eyes of two common friends already happily wedded. The course of this true but new love, unlike that of some romantic attachments, runs very smooth, and is scarcely disturbed by the necessary disappointment of poor Arthur Ashburton, who crosses the road of the merry travelling party at Twickenham, and again in Cumberland. The descriptions of local scenery and of English rustic life, with many characteristic traits of provincial manners, dialects, and behaviour, are faithfully and vividly drawn. We advise the lover of wholesome light comedy to get up behind Mr. Black's tourists' phaeton and to ride with these agreeable fellow-passengers all the way.

A very tolerable volume of neat and sprightly verse, which does not, however, quite deserve to be called poetry, is entitled *Nuova Italia, or Tours and Returns through France, Switzerland, Italy, and Sicily*, in ten cantos, by Nomentino, F.R.G.S. (Longmans). It is an unromantic and unsentimental "Childe Harold," declining, indeed, to the trivial and familiar tone of some passages in "Don Juan," but never without a fair degree of smartness and point. The verses are of six lines, constituting two alternating rhymed couplets, followed by another couplet with a different rhyme, which is, perhaps, the easiest and most fitting construction for a poem in a sportive, semi-jocular, or variable tone. The originality of the author's private reflections, and the freedom with which his sentiments are expressed, make up for the want of novelty in the scenes to be described along the ordinary route of a Continental tour. In the main, he holds the same opinions with the majority of Protestant and Liberal-Conservative Englishmen concerning the independence and unity of Italy, the French intervention, the recent overthrow of the Pope's temporal dominion at Rome, and the political, social, and religious movements of Europe during the last ten or twenty years. His several visits to France, Switzerland, and Italy have taken place at different periods, the last being since the events of the late war; and he wrote these cantos in the evenings, at the hotels where he stopped from day to day; so that the mellowing effect of a good table d'hôte, with a bottle of Beaune or Vino d'Asti, has probably served to put him in the vein for metrical composition. The result is not unpleasant to good-humoured readers, who have still a liking for rhyme.

The Hand-Book for the Breakfast-Table, by Mary Hooper (Griffith and Farran), is a modest little work which deserves more attention than its unpretending appearance might seem to warrant. There is no doubt whatever that the author is right in her remark that men of business should leave their homes in the morning physically fortified against the fatigues of an anxious day; and she has done her best to assist housekeepers in providing good, economical breakfasts for every day, as well as superior dishes for special occasions.

The opening of the session of the Catholic University of Dublin, took place on Monday, when Cardinal Cullen was present. Dr. Woodlock, the Rector, entered into a long justification of the position of the Catholic University, and repeated its claims.

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Sir John Bowring, LL.D., F.R.S., whose death, at his residence, Claremont, near Exeter, is just announced, was born at Exeter, Oct. 17, 1792, and was descended from an ancient and respectable Devonshire family, being eldest son of Charles Bowring, Esq., of Larkbeare, in that county, by Sarah, his wife, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Lane, of St. Ives. Sir John was author of numerous works on the literature of foreign countries, and published versions of poems and other productions from the Russian, Servian, Polish, Danish, German, Swedish, Icelandic, Dutch, Spanish, and Portuguese languages. For his two volumes of "Russian Anthology" he received a diamond ring from Alexander I., and for his works on Holland a gold medal from the King of the Netherlands, and the degree of LL.D. from the University of Groningen. He was editor for several years of the *Westminster Review*, and issued very many works on politics, political economy, and finance. From 1835 to 1837 he sat in Parliament for Kilmarnock, and from 1841 to 1849 for Bolton. In the last-named year he was appointed British Consul at Canton, and in 1854 became H.M.'s Plenipotentiary in China and Governor of Hong-Kong. On his retirement, in 1859, he received the honour of knighthood. Sir John was decorated with numerous foreign orders, and was a member of many European literary societies. He married, first, 1816, Maria (who died 1858), daughter of the late Samuel Lewin, Esq., of Hackney, Middlesex; and, secondly, 1860, Deborah, daughter of Thomas Castle, Esq., of Bristol. One of Sir John's sons, Edgar Alfred Bowring, C.B., M.P. for Exeter, emulating his father's literary reputation, is author of a poetical version of the Book of Psalms, and of translations from the works of Schiller, Goethe, and Heine; and another of his sons, Lewin Benthall Bowring, Esq., Chief Commissioner of Mysore, has gained distinction in the Indian Civil Service.

MR. PALMER, OF HOLME PARK.

Robert Palmer, Esq., of Holme Park, Berks, J.P. and D.L., lord of the manor of Sunning, died on the 24th inst. He was born Jan. 31, 1793, the eldest son of Richard Palmer, Esq., of Hurst, Berks, by Jane, his wife, eldest daughter of Oldfield Bowles, Esq., of North Aston, Oxfordshire; and was grandson of Robert Palmer, of Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, for many years agent to the Duke of Bedford. He was educated at Eton, and at Trinity College, Cambridge; and sat in Parliament for Berkshire from 1825 to 1859. In 1818 he served as High Sheriff of that county. He was never married.

Mr. John Charles Dundas has been approved by the Queen for the Lord-Lieutenancy of Orkney and Shetland.

A new Roman Catholic chapel, with schools attached, was opened at Aldershot, on Thursday week, by the Right Rev. Dr. Danell, after which Monsignor Capel preached a sermon.

The Flax Supply Association report that an increased area will probably be appropriated to flax cultivation in Ireland in 1873, provided an adequate supply of seed be forthcoming.

Mr. Gladstone, who was one of the earliest subscribers to the Liverpool College, is announced to deliver the prizes to the pupils on Dec. 21.

A great fall of cliff, loosened by the recent continuous rains, took place, on Tuesday, at Dover, and four houses were overwhelmed by the avalanche of chalk. Ample warning was given, and no lives were lost.

The Lords of the Admiralty have approved of a site being selected within the precincts of Greenwich Hospital for the monument to the memory of the officers and men of the Royal Navy who fell in the New Zealand war of 1863-4.

An elaborate series of memoranda, embodying the new system of drill and tactics to be practised by all the British troops at home and abroad, has been sanctioned by the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief. The several memoranda, which enter into minute detail, relate respectively to the formation of the new half-battalion double columns at quarter distance, the formations of various corps and arms for attack, the changing of front, and the conduct of the attack by a division in the new formation.

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